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No. 51

Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our Father, thank you for filling our lives with blessings. We praise You for the daily miracles of light and shadows, work and rest, life and love. We even thank You for the blessings of disappointments and failures that humble us, and for pain and distress that remind us of our need for You.

Lord, we are grateful for the women and men of the U.S. Senate who strive to keep freedom's torch burning. Awaken in them a deeper appreciation for Your loving providence, as You give them a heightened sense of the special role You want them to play in the unfolding drama of world history.

And, Lord, we thank You for the life and legacy of Pat Collins, the mother of Senator SUSAN COLLINS.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 22, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Ernest Gonzalez, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, at about 12:01 a.m. tonight, about 70 percent of the Federal Government will run out of funding if Congress does not act. Democrats and Republicans have about 13 hours to work together to

make sure the government stays open. That is not going to be easy. We will have to work together and avoid unnecessary delays.

This morning, the House will move first on the funding package. And as soon as they send us a bill, the Senate will spring into action. To my colleagues on both sides, let's finish the job today. Let's avoid even a weekend shutdown. Let's finish the job of funding the government for the remainder of the fiscal year.

There is no reason to delay. There is no reason to drag out this process. If the Senators cooperate on a time agreement, if we prioritize working together—just as we did 2 weeks ago—I am optimistic we can succeed. But if individual Senators resort to partisanship and stonewalling and dithering, those individuals will almost guarantee that we shut down, and the process could drag into Saturday, Sunday, and possibly beyond.

Now, this appropriations process hasn't been easy, but I am glad that after months of hard work, we have arrived at a funding package that both sides can be pleased with. The funding package will go a long way to supporting American families, strengthen our economy, safeguarding our national security. It increases funding for childcare services, boosts disease research and prevention, and funds school mental health programs and suicide prevention—something we so desperately need. We are strengthening border security. We are protecting our elections, and, most importantly, we will have avoided most of the draconian cuts and poison pills that the hard right has pushed for months.

And once we fully fund the government, we will also avoid the terrible scythe of budget sequestration that has been hanging over Congress since last year.

We are not done yet, but I would like to once again thank my colleagues—Chairwoman MURRAY and Vice Chair

- This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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COLLINS—for their outstanding work here in the Senate. I want to thank all the appropriators for their work. I want to thank all their staffs, especially my own staff, too, because I greatly appreciate the remarkable work they do every single day.

Getting things done in divided government is hard; getting things done in this divided government is even harder.

But both sides have come up with a strong funding package that ignores extremism and puts the needs of the country first. That is a credit to leadership on both sides, and I thank them for their work.

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE BUDGET PLAN

Mr. President, now, on the Republican Study Committee's budget. Earlier this week, House Republicans released a hard-right wish list masquerading as a budget plan. The Republican Study Committee's new budget can be summarized in two words: dangerous, disastrous. This Republican Study Committee's budget plan is dangerous because it double downs on the hard-right's war on women. It endorses a national ban on abortion with zero exceptions for rape or incest, which remains the ultimate goal of the hard right, should they come to power.

If anyone is asking what would happen if the Republicans kept the House, took the Senate and the Presidency, on abortion, just read this Republican Study Committee's budget: A national ban on abortion with zero exceptions for rape and incest. That is the goal of the Republican Party should they gain power and are able to do it.

We will do everything we can, of course, to stop them.

The RSC budget plan also rolls back access to mifepristone, a safe, reliable, and widely available medicine that millions of Americans have used for over 20 years. The RSC budget plan would critically endanger access to IVF. As much as Republicans have tried to recently sound moderate on IVF, when they have to put their pen to paper and say what their proposals are, their radical agenda is blowing up in their faces.

And all you have to do is read the RSC budget plan to see they haven't moderated one iota on women's health. Whether it is abortion, mifepristone, or IVF, the Republican Study Committee, which represents the vast majority of House Republicans—it reads like a hard-right, radical, anti-women document.

But that is not all. The RSC budget is disastrous because it proposes a stunning \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Social Security while raising the retirement age for millions of hard-working Americans. That is crazy.

Remember, the Republican Study Committee isn't some arcane offshoot of the Republican Party; it represents 80 percent of the Members in the House, including all of their leadership. For all intents and purposes, the RSC budget plan represents the Republican agenda.

And what is the Republican agenda? Aside from cutting back dramatically on women's rights, a national ban on abortion with no exceptions, it also is cutting Social Security and raising the retirement age.

What is the Republican agenda? It is also repealing \$35 insulin for seniors on Medicare and repealing its authority to negotiate cheaper drug prices.

What is the Republican agenda? It is trillions of dollars in tax breaks for the ultrawealthy and trillions of dollars in budget cuts to the Children's Health Insurance Program and the ACA.

These are just some of the terrible things in the RSC budget plan. It is awful. It is cruel. But amazingly, it is what the overwhelming majority of House Republicans endorse.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. President, on judge shopping, yesterday, I sent a letter to the Judicial Conference urging them to defend their new, commonsense policy reforms limiting the practice of judge shopping.

I also sent a letter to the chief judge of the Northern District of Texas, where judge shopping is running rampant, urging the district to apply the reforms of the Judicial Conference as quickly as possible.

The bottom line is this: Judge shopping jaundices the fairness of our entire legal system. When hard-right plaintiffs, often funded by hard-right groups that just hire the lawyers, when they can pick and choose which judge hears their case—which is what has happened, for instance, in the Northern District of Texas in Amarillo, where cascades of cases are being filed by rightwing groups across the country—when this happens, when hard-right plaintiffs can pick and choose which judge hears their case, it distorts the system and causes the American people to lose faith in our courts.

Judge shopping is precisely what led to the terrible case in the Northern District of Texas, where anti-choice extremists handpicked a MAGA judge—the only one sitting—to revoke FDA approval of mifepristone nationwide. This one judge, extreme right—known as extreme right before he became a judge and after—gets to choose for the whole country because of forum shopping.

It is awful. I applaud the Judicial Conference for taking the initiative to limit judge shopping. I urge the courts across the country to apply these new reforms.

And when my Republican colleagues say they support this, it shows they are not for fairness of a judicial system; they are for outcome determination ahead of time before even cases are argued.

CLEAN ENERGY

Mr. President, on clean jobs, it has not even been 2 years since President Biden and Democrats made historic investments in our infrastructure, clean jobs, and advanced manufacturing, and already we see ribbon-cuttings, factory openings, and a boom in clean energy investment.

But this week House Republicans are pushing a number of bogus and nasty bills that would undo all the hard work we have done to create more jobs in clean energy while doubling down on giveaways to Big Oil.

One bill pushed by House Republicans would force taxpayers to pay more for the mess of oil and gas companies on public lands by repealing an IRA rule requiring companies to pay a fair rate to lease America's public resources.

At a time when Big Oil is seeing record profits and Big Oil is consolidated so there is very little competition, House Republicans want to gift them even more giveaways, while making taxpayers pick up the tab.

A number of other bills Republicans are pushing would outright repeal many of the job-creating investments in the IRA. That is terrible because the law is working so, so well. Last year, we saw \$240 billion in clean energy investment, triple the level of 2019. These investments and these good-paying jobs are what Republicans are trying to take away.

America is leading the world in our transition to clean energy. We are creating lots of jobs, good-paying jobs, along the way. But the MAGA Republicans, fatally beholden to the Big Oil and Big Coal lobbies are pushing to kill clean jobs, kill these historic investments, and extinguish years of future potential prosperity to the communities they represent. Shame on them.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, the task before Congress this week, completing annual appropriations, is important work every year. In fact, it is among our most basic, fundamental responsibilities.

But not in decades have the stakes of providing for the common defense been as high as they are right now. For the first time since the Cold War, America faces an era defined by great power competition. Of course, this is not news.

Two straight Presidential administrations have correctly recognized this fact, at least on paper, in their national security strategies. These documents have recognized that challenges from revisionist authoritarians in Russia and China pose the greatest threat to the endurance of American leadership that has defined world politics and economics for decades.

Today, we face major adversaries who wish nothing more than to bleed

American influence, sap our resolve, torch our credibility, and fill every void we leave behind with a new order built on fear and subjugation. And we face terrorists and rogue states committed to help them sow chaos. North Korea is sending thousands of train cars full of ammunition to fuel Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine; and Iran's Houthi proxies are signaling to Russian and Chinese ships that they will be permitted to traverse the Red Sea unharmed. But it is not enough to recognize these challenges or name-check them in policy papers. Both the administration and Congress have to act and invest and be willing to meet them.

President Biden's actions undercut any of his administration's apparent recognition of the grave moment we are facing. For 4 straight years, the Commander in Chief has requested defense budgets that don't even keep pace with inflation. De facto cuts to U.S. military funding do not signal seriousness about outcompeting our biggest strategic adversaries—China's defense, for example, is growing by more than 7 percent year-over-year—and neither did the President's hand-wringing and delay over equipping Ukraine with the capabilities needed to better defend itself against Russian aggression.

Frankly, President Biden seems to have a deep-seated discomfort in cultivating and exercising hard power—a necessary, foundational part of the statecraft that protects America and preserves our interests.

Of course, Congress has a say and a responsibility. Our work on fiscal year 2024 defense appropriations represents a critical down payment. But important requirements will remain unmet even after the needed investments this Defense bill will make.

Republicans recognized the constraints of the budget caps, and we worked hard to ensure that the national security supplemental we passed in the Senate will make further critical investments in our own military and defense industrial capability.

Earlier this week, the Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Admiral Aquilino, made the case for passing the supplemental to our House colleagues, saying “any win for Russia . . . is a win for China,” and so what we do “supporting the Ukraine problem set also provides a deterrent value” in the Indo-Pacific.

Together with full-year appropriations, the supplemental is a serious, urgent, and necessary investment in American hard power. And I will continue to urge the House to take it up and pass it without further delay.

But as the Senate prepares to finish our work on annual government funding, I want to once again thank our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee for the diligent work required to get to this point. Senator MURRAY and Senator COLLINS made a commitment nearly a year ago to restore as much regular order to the process as

possible and to work constructively across the aisle.

I am especially grateful to my friend SUSAN COLLINS, whose leadership and skill have continued to improve this legislation on behalf of Senate Republicans at every step of the process.

I am particularly proud of how the legislation before us will deliver on the priorities of my fellow Kentuckians. In significant ways, the work of rebuilding American hard power begins right here at home. It means good-paying manufacturing jobs for hard-working Americans across the country, including in Kentucky, in communities like Sterns and Somerset, where Kentuckians develop cutting-edge tools and technologies that give our servicemembers the upper hand on the battlefield or Brandenburg, where they produce new armor systems to enhance the next generation of combat equipment; or Louisville and Lexington, where they are spurring innovation in areas critical to our warfighting capabilities through partnerships with the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky.

Of course, funding the government this week also puts more weight behind missions even closer to home, like our fight against the substance abuse epidemic which has had a staggering—staggering—impact in my home State. We are devoting more resources to the Kentucky National Guard to reinforce State and local law enforcement as they combat the flow of illegal drugs literally pouring over our border. And we are directing billions toward States like Kentucky so we can promote long-term recovery, find new ways to treat addiction, and spare more lives from this deadly crisis. Through prevention, treatment, and enforcement, we are taking direct aim at a health crisis that has hollowed out our communities and hit middle America especially hard.

Our work is far from finished, but I am proud of what my Senate colleagues have accomplished to close out the annual appropriations process. It is now time to finish the job.

NOMINATION OF ADEEL ABDULLAH MANGI

Mr. President, on another matter, I have spoken repeatedly about the nomination of Adeel Mangi to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in New Jersey. As I explained, his radical associations are truly staggering. And this fact seems to have rubbed some of our Democratic colleagues the wrong way.

Yesterday, one of my esteemed Democratic colleagues objected that we were unfairly ignoring Mr. Mangi's record as a lawyer. Well, I have looked at that record and encourage Democrats to do the same.

Our colleagues may not mind Mr. Mangi's cavorting with apologists for terrorism and cop killing. That much wouldn't be surprising, considering that their party is in the process of succumbing to noxious strains of anti-Semitism and soft-on-crime radicalism.

But it is a bit odd that more of our colleagues don't seem to care that Mr. Mangi has spent his entire career in “white shoe” corporate law, working as a hired gun for causes Democrats love to hate.

For example, did you know that Mr. Mangi defended monopolists accused of fixing the prices of chocolate? Just in time for Easter.

While Democrats promote the Green New Deal, Mr. Mangi defended a foreign conglomerate as it pursued a fossil fuel contract.

It is hard to count the number of cases Mr. Mangi has litigated in defense of companies accused of fixing the price of prescription drugs. This is a practice that the senior Senator from Vermont says “rip[s] off the American people.” Mr. Mangi says it demands compelled arbitration. In at least three of these pharmaceutical suits, Mr. Mangi fought against union pension funds. Curiously, none of these cases are on Mr. Mangi's committee questionnaire.

I don't begrudge a lawyer based on their clients—and I am sure Mr. Mangi was handsomely paid. And besides, we are talking about perfectly defensible and often successful legal arguments. But do my Democratic friends feel the same way?

Fortunately, a growing number of our colleagues are saying they are unwilling to walk the plank for Mr. Mangi's radical affiliations. But his remaining supporters? They might land among the sharks themselves if they insist he be judged on his legal record.

NOMINATION OF ERNEST GONZALEZ

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Ernest Gonzalez to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Born in San Antonio, TX, Mr. Gonzalez received his B.B.A. from the University of Texas at San Antonio and his J.D. from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. From 1994 to 2000, he worked at the Bexar County District Attorney's Office in San Antonio, where he prosecuted misdemeanor and felony crimes. In 2000, he joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas in Del Rio as an assistant U.S. attorney, where his portfolio consisted primarily of immigration and narcotics violations.

From 2003 to 2023, Mr. Gonzalez worked as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas in Plano. While there, he served as chief of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces Section, and he represented the United States in a variety of domestic and international criminal cases, including drug-trafficking cases. Since 2023, he has worked as a senior attorney advisor for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Section of the Criminal Division in Washington, DC.

Mr. Gonzalez has an extraordinary amount of trial experience in both

State and Federal court. He has tried more than 250 jury trials to verdict, including more than 120 State jury trials and more than 135 Federal jury trials. He enjoys the strong support of both of his home State senators—Mr. CORNYN and Mr. CRUZ—and the American Bar Association unanimously rated Mr. Gonzalez as “well qualified” to serve on the Western District of Texas.

During Mr. Gonzalez’s confirmation hearing, Senator CORNYN expressed his belief that Mr. Gonzalez’s “temperament, his knowledge of the law, and ability to handle a large docket will serve the Del Rio Division of the Western District well.” I agree with that assessment. I strongly support Mr. Gonzalez’s nomination, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

Mr. SCHATZ. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the 12 noon vote now.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON GONZALEZ NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Gonzalez nomination?

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. (HAGERTY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 88, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 102 Ex.]

YEAS—88

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Baldwin | Cotton | Kelly |
| Barrasso | Crapo | Kennedy |
| Bennet | Cruz | King |
| Blumenthal | Daines | Klobuchar |
| Booker | Duckworth | Lankford |
| Boozman | Durbin | Lee |
| Brown | Ernst | Luján |
| Budd | Fetterman | Lummis |
| Butler | Fischer | Manchin |
| Cantwell | Gillibrand | Markey |
| Capito | Graham | McConnell |
| Cardin | Grassley | Menendez |
| Carper | Hassan | Merkley |
| Casey | Heinrich | Moran |
| Cassidy | Hickenlooper | Mullin |
| Collins | Hirono | Murkowski |
| Coons | Hyde-Smith | Murphy |
| Cornyn | Johnson | Murray |
| Cortez Masto | Kaine | Ossoff |

| | | | | | |
|----------|------------|------------|----------|------------|------------|
| Padilla | Schatz | Vance | Smith | Tillis | Welch |
| Paul | Schumer | Warner | Stabenow | Van Hollen | Whitehouse |
| Peters | Scott (SC) | Warnock | Sullivan | Warner | Wicker |
| Reed | Shaheen | Warren | Tester | Warnock | Wyden |
| Ricketts | Sinema | Welch | Thune | Warren | Young |
| Risch | Smith | Whitehouse | | | |
| Romney | Stabenow | Wicker | | | |
| Rosen | Tester | Wyden | | | |
| Rounds | Thune | Young | | | |
| Rubio | Tillis | | | | |
| Sanders | Van Hollen | | | | |

NAYS—7

| | | |
|--------|----------|------------|
| Britt | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Hawley | Schmitt | |
| Hoeven | Sullivan | |

NOT VOTING—5

| | | |
|-----------|---------|------------|
| Blackburn | Cramer | Scott (FL) |
| Braun | Hagerty | |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will immediately be notified of the Senate’s action.

The Senator from Washington.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

UDALL FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on H.R. 2882.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. (HAGERTY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 18, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 103 Leg.]

YEAS—78

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Baldwin | Duckworth | Markey |
| Barrasso | Durbin | McConnell |
| Bennet | Ernst | Menendez |
| Blumenthal | Fetterman | Merkley |
| Booker | Fischer | Moran |
| Boozman | Gillibrand | Mullin |
| Britt | Graham | Murkowski |
| Brown | Grassley | Murphy |
| Budd | Butler | Murray |
| Butler | Cantwell | Ossoff |
| Cantwell | Heinrich | Padilla |
| Gillibrand | Capito | Hirono |
| Capito | Cardin | Peters |
| Cardin | Carper | Reed |
| Carper | Casey | Ricketts |
| Casey | Cassidy | Romney |
| Cassidy | Collins | Rosen |
| Collins | Coons | Rounds |
| Coons | Cortez Masto | Klobuchar |
| Cornyn | Cotton | Schatz |
| Cortez Masto | Luján | Schumer |
| Cortez Masto | Lummis | Shaheen |
| Cortez Masto | Cramer | Sinema |

NAYS—18

| | | |
|---------|----------|------------|
| Budd | Kennedy | Rubio |
| Crapo | Lankford | Sanders |
| Cruz | Lee | Schmitt |
| Daines | Marshall | Scott (SC) |
| Hawley | Paul | Tuberville |
| Johnson | Risch | Vance |

NOT VOTING—4

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Blackburn | Hagerty |
| Braun | Scott (FL) |

The motion was agreed to.
(Mr. KELLY assumed the Chair.)

UDALL FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The Chair lays before the Senate the message from the House.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2882) entitled “An Act to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.”, with a House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move that the Senate concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

CLOTURE MOTION

Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Peter Welch, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeff Merkley, Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Tina Smith, Jeanne Shaheen, Chris Van Hollen.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1790

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to concur in the House amendment with an amendment No. 1790, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882, with an amendment numbered 1790.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion to concur with the amendment.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1791 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1790

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have an amendment to amendment No. 1790, which is at the desk.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 1791 to amendment No. 1790.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be dispensed with.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1792

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to refer the House message to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 1792.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER], moves to refer the House message to accompany H.R. 2882 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 1792.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask that further reading be waived.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 3 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays on my motion.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1793

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have an amendment to the instructions, which is at the desk.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 1793 to the instructions on the motion to refer.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading be waived.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike "3 days" and insert "4 days".

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1794 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1793

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have an amendment to amendment No. 1793, which is at the desk.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 1794 to amendment No. 1793.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be waived.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

On page 1, line 1, strike "4 days" and insert "5 days".

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, we are nearing the end of what has been a long, winding, and tough process. I just want to start by thanking everyone who has worked with me to get here, and that starts, of course, with my vice chair, Senator COLLINS, who has been a really great partner throughout this process, and I so appreciate it.

I also want to thank our counterparts in the House, Chair GRANGER and Ranking Member DELAURO. And I want to thank all of my staff and the vice chairs who have worked tirelessly on these bills, all our incredible subcommittee chairs: Senators TESTER, VAN HOLLEN, MURPHY, BALDWIN, REED, and COONS; our ranking members: Senators HAGERTY, BRITT, CAPITO, FISCHER, and GRAHAM; Leaders Schumer and McConnell; and all of their staffs; and so many others.

As I have said before, this is not the package I would have written all on my own, but by working together, we were finally able to hammer out an agreement on funding bills that protect and even strengthen critical investments in our families, in our economy, and in our national security.

Make no mistake, we had to work under very difficult top-line numbers and fight off literally hundreds of extreme Republican poison pills from the

House, not to mention some unthinkable cuts, but at the end of the day, this is a bill that will keep our country and our families moving forward.

I want to talk about what is in this package before our final vote. I want to start with something that is a top priority for families and for me: childcare, which is far out of reach for so many people right now.

I will seize every opportunity I can to help families get affordable childcare. And in this funding bill, I am pleased to say that we increased Federal funding for childcare and pre-K by \$1 billion. That is not even counting steps I secured to protect the CCAMPIS Program that helps young parents who are in college who need childcare or double the capacity for the universal pre-K program we have for our servicemembers.

Ultimately, we need to pass, I believe, my Child Care for Working Families Act to fix this crisis and make affordable childcare a reality for every family. But until we get there, I will keep pushing for every inch of progress to alleviate the stress families are feeling when it comes to childcare.

Can we take steps to help our military families get childcare? What about moms who are looking to get a college degree? What bit of progress can we make to help folks? These are the questions that motivate my thinking on this issue and many others like people's health and well-being.

This package provides crucial health funding. It boosts research funding for cancer, for Alzheimer's, for maternal mortality, and more.

It funds community health centers, local efforts to fight the opioid and mental health crisis, and the new Federal office of pandemic preparedness that I created with former Senator Burr.

In the face of House Republicans' push to gut funding to end HIV and build our public health infrastructure, we protected those vital efforts in this bill.

We protected family planning, not just from the House Republican efforts to defund title X entirely but also from countless far-right proposals to restrict women's reproductive freedom.

The American people should know that Democrats stood firm to reject every single one of those.

We also stood together to make critical investments in education, protecting increases we made to the maximum Pell award in recent years, educator preparation initiatives, and workforce training programs.

We rejected House Republicans' unthinkable cuts in funding for K-12 schools, which would have reduced funding for nearly 90 percent of school districts and force teachers out of our kids' classrooms.

Of course, this package does fund our staffs and Capitol Police here in Congress, our election security, and other essential, basic functions of government.

Then there are the crucial investments for our national security. At a time when Putin is on the march in Ukraine, the Chinese Government is growing its influence in an aggressive posture, and the Israel-Hamas war is still raging, American leadership could not be more essential. That is why it remains imperative the Speaker finally put that national security supplemental bill that we passed overwhelmingly up for a vote, and it is why this bill also includes investments to promote global stability, to keep our country safe, to deter conflict, and to ensure our military remains the strongest in the world.

That means investments in diplomacy, maintaining strong ties with our allies, upholding our commitments, forging new partnerships, providing more humanitarian aid, and promoting stability and global health.

It means investments in defense, not just funds for new equipment—though that is important—but investments in the men and women in uniform who are our true frontlines of defense.

The bill provides our servicemembers a pay raise. It invests in childcare for their kids, like I mentioned earlier. It invests in food security and strengthens our efforts to prevent suicide and address sexual assault and harassment in the forces, and more.

This bill secured additional visas for brave Afghans who worked alongside our servicemembers during the war in Afghanistan.

Finally, this package provides critical operational funding for the Department of Homeland Security. It is certainly not a perfect outcome, but let's not forget that Democrats were at the table. We were ready to pass a bipartisan border policy deal until Donald Trump told Republicans to kill that deal.

But in spite of that, the funding in this bill shows we can at least agree to some extent that we must not short-change crucial work: stopping fentanyl from reaching our communities; stopping dangerous human trafficking; cracking down on drug cartels; and ensuring our borders are operating safely, efficiently, and humanely.

Now, I hope my colleagues will work with me to close the book on fiscal year 2024, to avoid a shutdown and get this bill passed ASAP, and then let's make sure we all learn from the hard lessons of the past few months about how we do get things done in a divided government, because what we have seen at every stage of this process is that when we do work together, when we put our heads down and focus on solutions and listen to our constituents, we can find common ground. We can craft bipartisan bills.

But when House Republicans stopped everything to renegotiate the deal they struck with the President; when they insisted on partisan poison pills; when they listened to the loudest voices on the far right, who—let's be real—were never going to vote for any bipartisan

funding bill, that gets us nowhere. It wasted months of precious time far better spent crafting bills that grow our economy and protect our country and make things better for folks back home. After all of that delay, how different, ultimately, was the outcome? Think about that. Yet now we are here, 6 months into the fiscal year, and Agencies will just have 6 months left to leverage these full-year spending bills.

I believe we negotiated strong, bipartisan bills that will help the American people. This outcome is so much better than a shutdown or a full-year CR, which would have had devastating cuts, but it should never have taken us this long to get here. We should not teeter on the verge of a shutdown and lurch from one CR to another. Agencies should not be dedicating so many resources to preparing again and again for a possible government shutdown. Don't we all agree that the Pentagon and the NIH have better ways to be spending their time and their tax dollars? The far-right elements who forced this dysfunction claim to care a lot about fiscal responsibility, but the constant chaos they create is the opposite of fiscal responsibility.

The truth is, these appropriations bills are written over the course of months, after dozens of hearings, with input from nearly every Member, and they reflect the priorities of every State in America.

Working together, focusing on solutions, solving problems for people back home—that is the responsible way to get things done, and it is for the most part how we conduct ourselves here in the Senate.

Vice Chair COLLINS and I held bipartisan hearings. We gave every Senator an opportunity to weigh in on these bills. We crafted 12 bills that passed out of our committee overwhelmingly, many unanimously. I think we need more of that as we begin our work now on fiscal year 2025 if we are going to keep this process on track.

So as we finally pass this bill, I urge all of my colleagues to really take the lessons of the past year to heart. Congress can still work but only when we come to the negotiating table in good faith and leave politics at the door.

Before I turn it over, I want to submit into the RECORD a list recognizing our incredibly dedicated staff, the people who truly keep the trains on track and who poured so many long days and nights of hard work into these bills.

I ask unanimous consent to have that printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE STAFF

With great appreciation I thank the following staff for their tireless dedication to the FY24 appropriations process:

Dianne Nellor, Rachel Erlebacher, Blaise Sheridan, Jessica Berry, Lindsay Erickson, Michael Bednarczyk, Abigail Grace, Brigid Kolish, Gabriella Armonda, Kate Käufer, Katy Hagan, Kimberly Segura, Laura Forrest (Mancini), Mike Clementi, Robert Leon-

ard, Ryan Pettit, Aaron Goldner, Doug Clapp, Jennifer Becker, Laura Powell.

Maria Calderon, Diana G. Hamilton, Ellen Murray, Maddie Dunn, Carly Rush, Dylan M. Stafford, Evan Schatz, Janie Dulaney, John Righter, Josephine Eckert, Katelyn Hamilton, Elizabeth B. Lapham, Emily M. Trudeau, Jim Daumit, Kami White, Angela Caalim, Anthony Sedillo.

Melissa Zimmerman, Rishi Sahgal, Ryan Hunt, Richard Braddock, Amanda J. Beaumont, Claire Monteiro, Erin Dugan, Kathryn Toomajian, Mark Laisch, Meghan Mott, Michael Gentile, Dylan W. Byrd, Jason McMahon, Michelle Dominguez, Alex Carnes, Andrew Platt, Kali Farahmand, Sarita Vanka.

Dabney Hegg, Jessica Sun, Kelsey Daniels, Rajat Mathur, Ben Hammond, Clint Trocchio, George A. Castro, Hong Nguyen, Joshua Kravitz, Karin Thames, Leslie Logan, Lynn Favorite, Penny Myles, Valerie Hutton, Karina Gallardo, Ryan Myers, Amir Avin, Hart Clements.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I again want to thank my colleague, who has worked with me side by side, through ups and downs and challenges, for well over a year now to get us to where we are here today. We want to get this bill passed and move on because we believe that by working together, we make America better.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today in support of the final six government funding bills before us. These bipartisan, bicameral bills are the result of many months of hard work by the Appropriations Committees in both the Senate and the House.

Let me start by thanking Chair MURRAY for her tremendous leadership and hard work throughout the entire appropriations process. She has really made a difference.

Since Chair MURRAY and I took the helm of the committee over a year ago, we have been committed to an appropriations process that provided Senators with a voice in funding decisions through robust committee proceedings. Toward that end, we held more than 50 public hearings and briefings. We televised our committee markups for the first time ever. The Senate Appropriations Committee marked up and advanced all 12 bills individually for the first time in 5 years, and we did so with overwhelming bipartisan support. Every single bill—each and every one of them—was subject to robust debate and amendments. Many of them passed unanimously, I am pleased to say, and others with only one dissenting vote.

This final package on the Senate floor today includes the fiscal year 2024 appropriations bills for the Department of Defense; State and Foreign Operations; Financial Services and General Government; Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; Legislative Branch; and Homeland Security. We are not punting through yet another continuing resolution, nor is this an omnibus; rather, it is a package of six individual bills that fund critical programs, important Agencies, and essential Departments through the end of this fiscal year.

Now, Madam President, I would have preferred that more of these bills would have been brought across the Senate floor, but no one can say that they were not available for scrutiny since we reported the last of them from committee way back in July.

In addition to my thanks for Chair MURRAY, I want to thank the ranking Republican members on each of the subcommittees reflected in the package today—Senators GRAHAM, HAGERTY, CAPITO, FISCHER, and BRITT—for their outstanding efforts in assembling this package. I also want to acknowledge the contributions of their Democratic chairs.

This legislation is truly a national security bill. Seventy percent of the funding in this package is for our national defense, including investments that strengthen our military readiness and industrial base, provide pay and benefit increases for our brave servicemembers, and support our closest allies.

This legislation also supports America's working families while providing funding to better secure our borders and combat the transnational criminal organizations that are flooding our communities with fentanyl.

As part of the effort to address the crisis at the border—and it is a crisis—this package includes funding for additional detention beds and more Border Patrol agents and port-of-entry officers. Those are longstanding Republican priorities—priorities that are shared by many Democrats as well.

As the ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, I want to take a few moments to highlight the bill in this package on which Chair TESTER and I worked extremely closely.

The bill avoids a devastating year-long CR that every single service chief told us would be a disaster for the Department of Defense. It meets the complex threats that are facing our country.

Madam President, to say that things have changed since the fiscal year 2024 budget request was first presented last spring would be a drastic understatement. Putin refuses to end his war in Ukraine. Hamas conducted its heinous, brutal attack on Israel on October 7. Iran continues to fan the flame of violence and terrorism throughout the Middle East, including against American forces. China's military budget and armed forces continue to grow unabated.

But you don't have to take my word for it. In the past few weeks, the Commander of U.S. Central Command, GEN Eric Kurilla, has described this as the most dangerous security environment in 50 years.

On the other side of the world, the Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command told Chairman TESTER and me earlier this week that this is the most dangerous time he has seen in his 40-year career, citing cooperation between Russia and China as a key and growing concern.

In addition, just last week, the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Chief of Naval Operations wrote to the majority and minority leaders describing the harm to the readiness of our Navy and Marine Corps unless we quickly pass a full-year Defense appropriations bill. This needs to be done before a large part—about two-thirds—of our government would otherwise shut down at midnight tonight. We must not let that occur.

To meet these challenges, our bill includes nearly \$824.5 billion for the U.S. military. It fully funds the 5.2-percent pay raise for servicemembers—the largest pay raise in more than 20 years. It includes a critical \$123 million increase for bonuses for our new recruits and junior enlisted soldiers. The bill also doubles the number of children who will have access to full-day pre-kindergarten in DOD schools—an important priority for Senator MURRAY and for me.

I also want to salute the work Representative KEN CALVERT did in this whole area of improving benefits and pay for our junior enlisted soldiers.

As the Chinese navy rapidly expands to more than 400 ships over the next 2 years, our legislation includes \$33.7 billion for Navy shipbuilding and downpayments for both an additional DDG-51 destroyer and an amphibious ship—the largest shipbuilding budget ever provided. Indeed, our legislation supports a Navy fleet that is six ships larger than the President's woefully inadequate request.

The Defense bill also includes more than \$2.2 billion for our uniformed military leaders' highest priorities that were not included in the administration's request. But, as the Presiding Officer knows, we get a list of unfunded priorities from our service chiefs.

Our bill includes \$273 million for long-range radars and sensors to close the awareness gaps identified by General VanHerck when he was Commander of Northern Command. It includes \$50 million for the INDOPACOM Commander to accelerate his top priority targeting capability and \$200 million to accelerate the development of the E-7 radar aircraft that was a top priority for the Air Force.

To strengthen deterrence against China, our legislation keeps the modernization of the nuclear triad on track. It funds the transition from "just-in-time" to a "just-in-case" stockpile of munitions by authorizing and funding, for the first time ever, six multiyear procurement contracts for missiles and munitions.

Surely, that has been one of the lessons that we have learned from Ukraine: how important it is that we have modernized an adequate stockpile.

And \$6.5 billion is also included to maximize this year's production of Patriot air defense missiles, long-range anti-ship missiles, and six other long-range precision strike missile programs.

Finally, in the area of defense, this bill also includes \$500 million for Iron Dome and David's Sling and Arrow—the cooperative missile defense programs that are consistent with the 10-year memorandum of understanding signed between the United States and our close ally Israel. This will provide much needed assistance to Israel in its fight against terrorism.

In addition to having a strong national defense, another priority of mine is biomedical research. And this bill will continue the progress that we are making in increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health. It increases funding for NIH by \$300 million, including \$120 million in an increase for the National Cancer Institute and \$100 million more for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia research.

I would note that it also increases funding for mental health, which is so important—an area that has been neglected somewhat in the past.

Another cause of mine, as the cochair with Senator JEANNE SHAHEEN of the Diabetes Caucus, has been to increase the funding for diabetes research. And we have done so in this bill.

We also pay attention to the problems with opioids and have included an increase in the funding for the Help to End Addiction Long-Term initiative, known as the HEAL initiative. Palliative care research also receives an increase. That is so important as our population ages. And that is an area—long-term care—that we still need to do an awful lot of work on in this country. I hope that this will start us on our path to that end.

Again, there has been so much work done on this package of bills. And I want to thank my Republican and Democratic colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, the leaders in the House, as well on the appropriations subcommittees and full committee. And I also want to thank our Senate leaders on both sides of the aisle and our House leaders for their extensive work on these bills.

Members throughout the Senate have contributed to prioritizing funding and identifying how funding should be prioritized. And I want to note for my Republican colleagues that the legacy riders that we have traditionally included, such as the Hyde amendment, are included in this bill.

Finally, I want to thank our extraordinary staff. They have worked nonstop throughout this past year but particularly this past month, without getting sleep, without seeing their families—just working night and day.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this final fiscal year 2024 appropriations package and complete our fundamental job of funding our government.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, Congress is poised to do what no American family would ever do. Congress is poised to spend one-third more dollars

than they receive. This is essentially equivalent to a family at home making \$45,000 but spending \$60,000. No American family can do that. But that is what is happening here.

The spending that has been brought forward for our spending plans this year will lead to a \$1.5 trillion deficit. So we bring in about \$4.5 trillion, and we are going to spend \$6 trillion. It is reckless. It leads to inflation. It is a direct vote to steal your paycheck. Because what happens, as we borrow more money, the Federal Reserve just prints up more money, and they will pay for all the debt that is created today. But that devalues your dollar.

So when you go to the grocery store and your prices have risen 20 percent, you can thank the people today that are all for you, and they are going to give you everything you want. Every program under the sun that grandmother and mother and apple pie wants, they are going to give you. But they are going to borrow the money.

This is a bait-and-switch. It is like: What do you want, America? Here, we will give it to you. It is free. You don't have to do anything.

But it is borrowed. When they give you stuff that they buy with borrowed money, they create inflation. This has been going on for a while. But it has accelerated. It is at an alarming pace now.

With the COVID lockdowns, we were borrowing \$3 trillion. Then with the Biden years, we were borrowing over a trillion. We are still borrowing at \$1.5 trillion. Why? Because their spending proposals take most of the spending off-limits.

Two-thirds of our spending is entitlements—Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps. That is two-thirds of the spending. That equals all of the money you pay in taxes.

They have taken that off the limit. They have stuck their head in the sand, and said, “We will not ever touch entitlements.”

Well, if you don't, you are not a serious person. If you don't, you are part of the problem.

Entitlements is two-thirds of the spending. Do I take joy in knowing that we have to reform these? No. But if you don't reform them, they are an anchor around the neck of America, and they are destroying us by spending money we don't have.

So two-thirds of the spending they are not even going to address. Now, of the remaining third of spending, that is what we vote on—military spending and nonmilitary spending. They call this discretionary spending. Of that remaining third, they took half of that off the table.

So entitlements is two-thirds of the spending. That is going up at about 5 to 6 percent. The remaining third that we vote on is military and nonmilitary. They say: Well, we have to continue to expand the military. It is going to go up to 3 percent.

So what are we left with? We are left with one-half of one-third, one-sixth of

government, about 16.6 percent. And we are going to say: Oh, we are going to really try to rein in spending there. And there what they do is, they almost slow it down to 1 or 2 percent.

This bill spends a third more than comes in. And what it is going to lead to—and has been leading to—is the erosion of your paycheck, the explosion of your gas prices, and the explosion of your grocery bills. Nothing is changing.

And you ask yourself: Where are Republicans? We have a Republican majority in the House, and, ostensibly, Republicans are for reducing the debt.

We have a filibuster-proof minority in the Senate and, ostensibly, Senate Republicans are for taking control of the debt. And yet what happens? Nothing happens. The spending goes on apace. The deficit grows by day.

So when did we get this spending bill? They have months and months to do this. When did we get it? At 2:32 a.m. on Thursday. And now it is: rush, rush, rush; we have got to shovel that money out the door, most of which we don't have or a third of which we don't have. We have to borrow it quickly, shovel it out the door because the government is going to shut down Friday at midnight.

Why is the government shutting down, and why are we up against a deadline? Because they didn't give us the thousand-page bill until 2:30 in the morning on Thursday.

Do you think we ought to read it? Do you think we ought to know what is in it?

Republican and Democrat leadership gave this to us at 2:32 in the morning—1,012-page bill, spends over a trillion dollars. No one will be able to thoroughly read and know what is in this until after it has passed. But it is rush, rush, rush; borrow more money; spend the money; and then try to deceive you into thinking that we gave you—we brought you manna from Heaven. We gave you all these gifts, these baubles. You are going to get a lot of free stuff. Every cause you like under the sun, you are going to get something for it in there. But they won't tell you the truth—that it is borrowed, it leads to inflation, and it is the biggest threat to our country.

We are not threatened by other countries invading our country. We are a strong and mighty country to which I do not believe we have an external threat. But we have a threat internally, and most of it resides in this body. Most of it resides in this body and in the House with profligate spenders who are not adequately concerned with spending what comes in. They are just jolly well borrowing it. They are jolly well borrowing it and sending it abroad.

You know, look, my sympathies are with Ukraine, but my first obligation to my oath of office is to my country. We can't just borrow money to send it to Ukraine.

You know, once the war is finally over, which one day it will be over, the

whole country is destroyed with bombs on both sides, and someone is going to be asked to pay for it. That is going to be you. Uncle Sam, Uncle Sucker will be asked to pay for it.

This bill that we are looking at has 138 pages and over 1,400 earmarks, totaling \$2 billion. What is an “earmark”? It is pork. It is not acknowledged by the Constitution. The Constitution says we can tax and spend money for the general welfare. We are allowed to spend money up here, according to the Constitution, only if it is for everyone.

So a bike path in Rhode Island is for people who live in one city in Rhode Island. They should tax the people of Rhode Island. But you don't tax everybody for a bike path in Rhode Island. That is against the principle and the spirit of the Constitution.

Now, these 1,400 earmarks are on top of the 6,000 earmarks we had last week for \$12 billion. So total between the two bills in the last 3 weeks, we have over 7,000 earmarks for \$14 billion. That is a lot of pork.

Democratic and Republican leadership want this reckless spending bill to pass quickly to make sure that no one has time to read or scrutinize the bill. Likely, no one will ever have the time to review all of the \$2 billion worth of earmarks before this is passed.

Now, earmarks and pork barrel spending is not brand new; it has been going on a long time. There was a conservative Democrat by the name of William Proxmire. This was a long time ago, in the old days, when there used to be conservative Democrats who cared about the debt.

And one of the programs that he talked about was—and he gave out a Golden Fleece Award to point out waste—but he said it was one of his favorites. He said the government, in their infinite wisdom, decided to discover whether or not, if you gave gin to a sunfish versus tequila, which would make the sunfish more aggressive?

Think about it. These are oppressing problems: \$100,000 to give tequila to sunfish and gin and see which one made them more aggressive.

Now, you would think that is so crazy, certainly it was one off and that we discovered this kind of waste, and we made it better. He talked about this for 15 years. And throughout the 15 years that he talked about the research money going to crazy research like this that not a penny should be spent on increased.

In fact, fast forward to last year—we are now like 30-some-odd years after William Proxmire was talking about this—last year, the main organization that is probably the most wasteful scientific accumulation of grants up here is the National Science Foundation. What did this body do, Republicans and Democrats? They voted to double the budget for the National Science Foundation.

What else do they do at the National Science Foundation? Let's see. Nearly

\$1 million was spent studying whether or not Japanese quail, if you give them cocaine, whether or not they are more sexually promiscuous—your tax dollars.

Every time they are bragging about what they are doing—it is worth borrowing the money—you remind them of what they are spending it on: nearly a million dollars to study Japanese quail to see if they are sexually promiscuous when they take cocaine.

Another one was ostensibly for autism. But when they got to the autism and they subgranted it and sent it here and there, and you never know where it is going to wind up, \$750,000, and it went to some, let's just call them egg-heads—that is the nicest word I can think of—to study what did Neil Armstrong say when he landed on the Moon. Was it “One small step for man” or was it “One small step for a man”? So \$750,000 was spent studying what he actually said. They listened to the crackly old audio from the black-and-white tapes from the Moon landing. And in the end, \$750,000 later, they couldn't decide, was it “One step for man” or “One step for a man”?

This is the craziness that goes on. Yet it goes on and on and on.

Here is what I will tell you. Even when it is something justified—I have family members who have Alzheimer's. My mother-in-law died not too long ago with it. So I have a great deal of sympathy for the disease. I think we are a big, rich country and government; we could spend money on Alzheimer's disease. At the same time, we can't bankrupt our country.

Let's say we spent \$100 million last year on Alzheimer's disease. Am I a cruel person for saying we don't have enough money; we should spend \$95 million this year? That never happens. Nothing ever gets smaller around here. Everything gets bigger. Everybody who wants something gets it. Put it on Uncle Sam's tab. We have a \$34 going on \$35 trillion debt. The biggest payment now in our budget within about a year is going to be the interest on that.

Here are a couple of the new earmarks that are in this bill: \$2 million for the construction of a kelp and shellfish nursery in Maine. You might say: Well, kelp might taste really good. I like to eat kelp. Good. There is already a \$15 billion private market for kelp. There are companies, including in Maine, that are growing kelp for farms. I say wonderful. I am not so sure if giving it to the government or to government universities is going to help these businesses or compete with them. But I don't think it is the job of the Federal Government to be involved in these parochial concerns.

Another earmark that we discovered in this bill is \$1.5 million to encourage video gaming in New York. Now, you know, I have nothing against people who play video games, sure. But \$1.5 million to encourage people? I have seen kids. I don't think they need any encouragement. In fact, we might be

better off spending \$1.5 million to discourage kids from playing video games. I see no reason, when we are down and in the hole this year \$1.5 trillion, that we should do this. This is an add-on. These add-ons are earmarks. They are in the name of probably the Senators from New York. They decided they want this video gaming thing in there. Maybe they know somebody in that industry, I don't know—maybe a friend of theirs.

That is why you don't earmark things. That is why things are supposed to be for the general welfare. You don't say: Here is something I am going to give to a specific parochial interest in my neighborhood or my State.

The third item we have is \$388,000 for Columbia University. I am sure the people who put this earmark in would be saying: I just love education, and I am just for education. Well, so am I. I am a product of public school education, private school education, lots of education. I am all for it. But do you know what? Columbia University has a \$13.6 billion endowment. They make \$388,000 in 20 days of interest. You would think maybe they could spend their own money. If you want to take a summer program to get into Columbia—which I think this money may be related to—it costs \$12,500 for a 3-week course at Columbia. We are talking about extraordinarily wealthy people paying this and going to this school. But there is no reason for the taxpayers to be giving a rich university that has \$13 billion any money.

The next earmark we found was \$249,000 for the Baltimore Symphony. People say: Gosh, I love the symphony, and I love music. So do I. The thing is, the way government is supposed to work is if you think that there is a general need for symphony money, you would pass a general symphony bill and we give money to all the symphonies and make them part of government. We don't have the money to do that. Instead, we do something even worse. We shouldn't be in the symphony business. It is not part of the general welfare.

What happens here is the people on the Appropriations Committee who have seniority—that means you have been here between 50 and 100 years most of the time—that is an exaggeration. Let's just say 50 years. They have been here 50 years and rise to the top and, by golly, they get money for their symphony in their city. That is not the way government is supposed to work.

There might even be less complaints if we have a surplus. But this is in the midst of borrowing it. So the \$250,000 is going to be borrowed from China. Everybody is all up in arms about China. We are borrowing money from China. We are becoming weaker than China because we keep spending money we don't have.

The next earmark was \$1 million for Cambridge, MA, Community Center to install some solar panels. I like solar panels as well as anybody. I think it is kind of cool to get some of your energy

from solar panels. This is a rich community. This is where Harvard is. This is where some of the largest, most successful corporations and research are in Boston. You think they can't pay for solar panels? Solar panels aren't for general welfare.

Our Founding Fathers said all spending and taxation had to be for the general welfare. And they went one step further. In article I, section 8, they laid out all the powers of Congress, all the things we are allowed to do. And not listed in those was to buy solar panels for one town.

You would think all the wealth with MIT and Harvard and all that wealth that is attracted to Cambridge, they would be able to buy their own solar panels. It has no place in a budget that is \$1.5 trillion in the hole and only makes us weaker. The next earmark is \$1 million for Martha's Vineyard Hospital, one of the richest ZIP Codes in the United States. I have been to Martha's Vineyard. It is beautiful. But I could only afford to go one time.

The thing is, if you live there, that is wonderful. I am all for wealthy people. I love that they have all these beautiful homes. I think President Obama may have a place there. The thing is, pay for your own hospital. I have little, tiny hospitals with 40 beds in a really rural community that because of all the rules and resolutions, are barely breaking even in Kentucky, and I don't see sending millions of dollars to Martha's Vineyard.

Once again, why did it go to Martha's Vineyard? Because somebody has been here for 50 years. They are on the Appropriations Committee. They put an earmark and said: I want the pork to go to Martha's Vineyard. Nobody makes a debate about whether Martha's Vineyard needs a bed more than Harlan, KY. They stick an earmark in here and get it because they have been here a long time.

It is a terrible way to legislate, but it is a terrible way to legislate in the context of this enormous debt we are amassing.

This bill is teeming with about \$2 billion worth of earmarks at a time when we can't afford the additional debt. Just days into the new year, the Treasury Department announced the U.S. debt had surpassed \$34 trillion. That is hard to fathom. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve came out and said it is an urgent problem. Jamie Dimon with JPMorgan Chase came out and said it was an urgent problem. On the heels of people saying it is an urgent problem, what happens? Congress rises to the occasion and borrows more money. Talk about tone-deaf—completely tone-deaf.

We are just going to borrow another \$1.5 trillion on the heels of \$34 trillion. We are spending at such a rate that right now, we are averaging a trillion dollars to the debt every 90 days. If that pace continues, instead of \$1.5 trillion, it could be up to \$4 trillion in the next year. Since this year, the United States is borrowing money at \$7 billion

a day. Think about that. We are borrowing money at over \$300 million per hour, and \$3 million per minute is being borrowed. We are borrowing money at \$85,000 a second. This is just spinning, literally, out of control. If you look at the debt clock online you can see the numbers just spinning like crazy.

If we are to judge the backroom negotiations between the “uniparty” leadership in Congress and the White House by its results, we can only conclude that they do not take our spending problems seriously. Even Republicans who talk such a good game about government spending and respect for taxpayer dollars when they are at home cannot be depended upon to fight for fiscal sanity when push comes to shove.

Our Nation’s greatest threat comes not from abroad but from within the Halls of Congress, which at every opportunity looks for ways to ignore our spending problem and expedite our economic decline. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office predicts we will add an average of \$2 trillion to our debt every year for the next decade.

But there is a breaking point. There is a point at which they print so much money that you can have a catastrophic loss of the value. This is what has happened in South America for decades. It is what has happened in Central America. And we don’t want it—at least I don’t want it—happening in our country.

The CBO also estimates net interest payments will outgrow defense spending this year and will become the largest item—over \$800 billion just in interest.

This reckless level of borrowing and spending is unsustainable. The ever-increasing heights of our debt in a weak economy, high inflation, and confiscatory tax rates—in other words, today’s spending threatens tomorrow’s prosperity.

We are approaching a predictable economic crisis in the United States. In my time in the Senate, I have proposed spending freezes, balanced budgets, spending cuts designed to get our Nation back on path. Today, though, instead of a balanced budget, I merely ask that this bill be sent back to the Appropriations Committee and that they report to the full Senate about how to responsibly cut 5 percent from this bloated monstrosity.

We wouldn’t eliminate everything, but everything you are going to spend money on—grandma, motherhood, apple pie—is going to get 5 percent less. That is what it would take to start balancing our budget.

We wouldn’t do it just on this bill because we would actually have to do that to everything in all our spending. Doing it here today shows somebody is serious about the spending.

My instructions even leave the Appropriations Committee open to determine where to reduce the spending. This isn’t asking that much. It is a lop-

sided compromise in which the select handful of Members who wrote this bill get 95 percent of everything they want. That is what it would mean if we were to pass this cut.

Realize that when we vote on this cut though, not one Democrat will vote to cut one penny. Seriously. If we offered an amendment to cut one penny, every Democrat would vote no on it. They are resisting voting no now because they are worried people at home will discover what they are voting for.

It is more than just the Democrats. No Democrat cares about the deficit. Many Republicans profess to care, but half of them will vote with the Democrats as well. This is really a bipartisan problem. Don’t let anybody tell you this is just about Joe Biden; it is about the previous administration as well. They borrowed \$7 trillion. They shut the economy down. COVID lockdowns led to extravagant borrowing, more than we have ever seen, and we are continuing it now.

But this is a bipartisan problem. It means that rather than spending \$1.2 trillion in this package, my proposal would spend \$1.14 trillion. Some would look at that and say: Gosh, that is not very dramatic at all. How did you become so moderate? And you know that is true; I am quite the moderate. It would cut \$60 billion—\$60 billion.

But they will unanimously, on the Democrat side, vote against this because they are against cutting one penny. And our side, half of our people on our side will vote against any cuts also. This is a modest cut and only the beginning of what you would have to do to bring fiscal sanity. I am willing to accept a reasonable compromise, even one that does not balance the budget significantly or even cut the necessary spending. I am willing to vote for something to cut some spending.

By agreeing to this motion, which will be an amendment later today, we can show to our constituents that we respect them as taxpayers and are open to the most reasonable attempts to shave down the unsustainable level of spending.

I ask that all consider a “yes” vote on my amendment when the time comes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

(The remarks of Mr. SCHATZ pertaining to the submission of S. 4063 are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

Mr. SCHATZ. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Texas.

TAX RELIEF FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES AND WORKERS ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, clearly it is an election year, because we are hearing more and more political speeches from the floor of the Senate and precious little work doing the hard things that we actually are elected to do, which is to legislate.

Here we find ourselves dealing with appropriations bills that should have been completed last September. I don’t know if people really understand that. What we are doing today, lurching from one shutdown to the next, is dealing with last year’s work. But you would think that, under the leadership of Majority Leader SCHUMER, we would have enough things to do rather than squander the opportunity to deal with those because we are dealing with last year’s work.

I think we can do better next year. Hopefully, with a different majority, we can actually pass a budget. We can take up and pass appropriation bills on a timely basis, and we can get our work done on time—something that has not happened under the current leadership.

I want to mention one hopeful sign, where, at least, one branch of the legislature is actually moving things through committee and across the floor and allowing votes, amendments, and debate. That would be the House of Representatives, not the U.S. Senate, sometimes called the world’s greatest deliberative body.

To their credit, earlier this year, the House passed a bill that made significant changes in our tax system, and that is what I want to talk about for the next few minutes.

This legislation was negotiated by the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, on which I am privileged to serve, Senator RON WYDEN, and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman JASON SMITH. They released a framework of this agreement in mid-January, and our colleagues in the House immediately began work on the bill.

The Ways and Means Committee, for example, held hearings—actual hearings, legislative hearings—and then a markup to debate the legislation. Members offered and voted on amendments, and, ultimately, this package passed the committee and the full House with strong bipartisan support.

Given the polarization and partisanship that often grips Congress, advancing a bipartisan bill is no small feat, especially during an election year. But that doesn’t mean the work on the bill is finished. As every high school student knows who takes civics or American history—they know that Congress is a bicameral body. The House and the Senate have to work together. There are two Chambers, two sets of Members with diverse views, Senators representing whole States—in my case, 30 million Texans. The House Members represent a much smaller Congressional District. But the process means that both Chambers need to work through these bills to improve them and make sure they are as good as we can make them before they are signed into law.

So my point is that the Senate is not a rubberstamp for the House, and the House would say that they are not a rubberstamp for us. And that is the

way it is. So be it. Members of both Chambers have a responsibility to evaluate and shape legislation before it is sent to the President's desk.

Congratulations to the Members of the House for doing their job. They sent a bipartisan bill to the Senate at the end of January, and now it is the Senate's turn to take a closer look at this legislation and see how it might be improved.

I had hoped that Chairman WYDEN would schedule a markup in the Finance Committee and allow members to ask questions and offer amendments to the bill. I am sure he thinks his negotiated bill with Chairman SMITH is perfect and doesn't need any improvement, but others may have a different point of view.

After all, members of the House Ways and Means Committee had that opportunity. That is called the legislative process. That is what we are supposed to do.

So you would think that Chairman WYDEN would want members of his own committee to have the same opportunity that the members of the House Ways and Means Committee had, but apparently that is not the case.

Nearly 2 months have passed since that bill passed the House, and Chairman WYDEN has shown zero interest in moving this bill through the Finance Committee and across the floor of the U.S. Senate, giving all Senators a chance to participate in the process and hopefully improve the final outcome. In fact, the chairman has refused to schedule a hearing or even a markup, as I mentioned, and has rejected commonsense proposals by Ranking Member MIKE CRAPO and Senate Republicans.

Earlier this week, the majority leader virtually guaranteed that the bill will not go through the regular order in the Senate. He took a procedural step to put this bill on the fast track for a vote here on the Senate floor, without any opportunity for the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over tax matters, to engage—no hearing, no markup, just “take it or leave it.”

Well, I have reviewed this bill, and while I will concede that there are some portions that are very promising, there are problematic areas that need more work. For example, this bill aims to incentivize research and development here at home by easing the tax burden on America's innovators.

Cutting-edge research and development is absolutely critical to our competitiveness, and Congress needs to promote new investments in the capabilities that will propel our economy and our national security into the future. This legislation, to its credit, restores full and immediate expensing for equipment and machinery purchases, which will enable small businesses to make new investments in their business and boost domestic manufacturing.

I have spoken to a number of my small business constituents in Texas

about the need for these types of reforms, and the House-passed bill is a great starting point for a full debate here in the Senate.

I believe there is a lot of potential here, but I share Ranking Member CRAPO's concerns about some of the remaining provisions in the bill. One example is the watered-down work requirement for the child tax credit. Under the proposed change, parents with zero earnings would still be eligible for a government check.

In other words, historically, tax credits have been tied to work and have been a credit against taxes that you would otherwise owe. But a refundable tax credit is merely a check from the Federal Government, regardless of whether you worked or created any income whatsoever.

Under the proposal by Chairman WYDEN and Chairman SMITH, as long as a person worked during one of the last 2 years—one of the last 2 years—they would be eligible for the child tax credit. As I said, historically, the child tax credit has been tied to work. I would think we would want able-bodied people to be working, if work is available. But this change would completely undermine that basic principle.

When the Joint Committee on Taxation analyzed this bill, they found that the expanded child tax credit would cost more than \$33 billion over the next 3 years.

You heard my colleague—our colleague—Senator RAND PAUL talk about the fact that our national debt is approaching \$35 billion. This would add another \$33 billion to that. And despite what the authors of this proposal have said, the vast majority of that cost is not due to tax relief.

According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, 91 percent of the cost of this legislation is spending. It is writing a check. It may be called a tax credit, but really it is a welfare payment. It is a transfer payment. Mr. President, 91 percent of the money will be sent as a check to people with zero tax liability because they have insufficient income to cause them to have any kind of tax liability. So it is not a credit against earnings or work; it is essentially a welfare check.

Only 9 percent of that \$33 billion cost is true relief for hard-working taxpayers with children. The rest is a new welfare program by another name. And it is not limited to the 3 years of the R&D tax credit and the expensing of interest; it is permanent. And I have every confidence that our colleagues across the aisle will come back for another bite at the apple.

We would be doing a great disservice to taxpayers by allowing the child tax credit to morph into another welfare program. We should not set the stage for it to become a permanent fixture of entitlement spending.

Again, you heard our colleague from Kentucky talk the fact that the money that we are appropriating here today and that we did a couple of weeks ago—

this is only about a third of what the Federal Government spends. The rest of it is on autopilot. It is mandatory spending. We don't even vote to appropriate that money; it is automatic. Proponents of this tax bill want us to add another \$33 billion over 3 years to that number.

The truth is, when it comes to the discretionary spending, the money we appropriate, we have done a much better job controlling the rate of increase of that spending, but right now, entitlement programs grow at 6, 7, 8 percent a year. That is one reason why our national debt is approaching \$35 trillion.

Well, supporters of this proposal have tried to downplay concerns about the cost of the bill because they say: It is only a temporary change. Well, that reminds me of Ronald Reagan's observation that the closest thing to eternal life on Earth is a temporary government program. There is no such thing as temporary around here. People come back either to reauthorize it or to extend it or to grow it. Once created, it doesn't go away.

As soon as the temporary change expires, supporters will argue it has to be extended. They will frame anyone who opposes another extension as trying to increase taxes on hard-working families. Well, as I said and as the Senator from Kentucky said, our national debt is currently \$34.5 trillion. A lot of that was money we spent during the COVID pandemic trying to deal with the public health crisis and the economic crisis caused by that virus. We did whatever we had to do to make our way through that, but in doing so, we added a lot of money to the national debt. We should not continue that.

The national debt is increasing by almost \$1 trillion every 100 days, and the permanent tax credit expansion would only fuel the debt crisis we are facing. Someday—someday—there will be a terrible crisis as a result of the trending national debt. Already you are hearing we are spending more money this year on interest on the national debt than we are on our own defense.

Well, according to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, this child tax credit expansion would cost \$180 billion over the next 10 years. We need to pump the brakes on this expansion, this runaway debt train, not stomp on the accelerator, which is what this proposal would do.

Mandatory spending already represents nearly two-thirds of Federal spending, and a permanent child tax credit expansion would drive that number even higher. That is just one of the concerns that I and many of my Republican colleagues have with this legislation.

Over the last several weeks, as we have been able to analyze the text of the bill, even other concerns, more concerns, have come to light.

This legislation would have major impact on families and job creators

across the country. We need to be careful, we need to be deliberate, and we need to make sure we understand what the impact of this legislation would be before a vote on the Senate floor, which is the reason why committees like the Finance Committee exist. Getting it right is far more important than doing it fast.

If Chairman WYDEN's goal is to build consensus, which is the way we do things around here, he can't shut everybody else out of the process. I understand building consensus in a diverse body like this is not easy—it is hard—and I think some people are positively allergic to the difficulty of that job. But that is the way we govern. That is the way the Senate operates. We need an open forum to debate this bill and make changes at the committee level, and I am disappointed that the chairman of the Finance Committee himself has refused to do so.

Just as our counterparts in the House had their chance to evaluate this legislation and make improvements at the committee level, Senate tax writers need to have the same opportunity.

As each of our colleagues knows, Congress has developed a very bad habit of abandoning the procedures that were designed to give every single Senator a voice in the legislative process. For too long now, we have had bills cooked up behind closed doors and plopped here on the Senate floor, facing another deadline, another cliff, and being told: You have no choice. You can't change it. All you can do is vote up or down or else there will be dire consequences, like a shutdown.

Committees have been sidelined, and we have moved toward a process in which a small number of Members make decisions and try to bully or threaten everyone into voting yes.

Well, I can tell you that I, for one—and I know I am not the only one—am tired of being cut out of the process and being treated like a potted plant.

That cannot happen with this bill, so I will not vote to move this bill on the Senate floor until we have a process that allows all Senators to participate but starting with members of the Senate Finance Committee. I hope my Republican colleagues will join me in requesting that the Finance Committee be given an opportunity to do its job. Until that time, I hope there are 41 Senators who will deny the majority leader's request that we proceed to consider this legislation after bypassing the Finance Committee process. But once we do that, the majority leader must allow a robust floor debate and amendment process. That is what we do. That is our job.

All Senators deserve a chance to participate, as I said, first in the committee and then on the floor.

Many supporters of this bill are pushing for a truncated process in the Senate because the tax season is already well underway. They suggested that the Senate should just abdicate its job and rush to get the bill done. But, as

our colleagues know, the tax season began before this bill even passed the House, and the chairman of the Finance Committee completely undermined the urgency argument by sitting on this bill for the last 2 months.

The majority leader and the chairman of the Finance Committee want to ram this bill through the Senate without proper debate or amendment, and Republicans must not allow that to happen. The way we gain leverage and force a negotiation rather than being run over and treated as a mere speed bump is for 41 Senators to stick together to deny cloture on a motion to proceed.

Members deserve the chance to shape a bill before a final up-or-down vote on the floor, and I urge Chairman WYDEN and Leader SCHUMER to give us that opportunity.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

GLOBAL HAPPINESS SURVEY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, we have had a lot of good news in the last several months, over the last year. Unemployment remains at its lowest level ever. For the last 2 years, the unemployment rate has been under 4 percent. That is the longest stretch that we have had less than 4 percent of Americans without a job in 50 years. Inflation has cooled to the lowest level since the start of the pandemic. The U.S. economy is booming. We have seen it grow faster than any other large, advanced economy in the world. Crime is down. We saw a 12-percent reduction in urban gun violence in 2023. That is the biggest reduction in the history of the country in 1 year. That is a lot of good news if you look at the metrics that we normally look to when we assess the quality of our public policy.

But here is some other striking data. In a report released this week, we come to find that despite unemployment going down, despite inflation going down, despite GDP going up, Americans are more unhappy than anytime before. This year in the global happiness rating survey, the United States, for the first time since they started doing this survey, fell out of the top 20. We are now No. 23 in the world.

Even more worrying, amongst young people, the United States ranks 62nd in the world. This is reflected by other surveys that show over the last 10 years the rate of happiness and contentment and fulfillment self-reported by Americans dropped despite the fact that the economy is growing, more people have jobs, and crime is plummeting.

So I am on the floor for just a few minutes to ask this simple question: Should we care about this disconnect between the quality-of-life indicators that we normally look to to assess the measure of our public policy and self-reported rates of happiness? My answer is pretty simple: We should care because we are in the business of happiness.

I know that doesn't sound right, because your happiness comes from your personal decisions, the priorities that guide your day. America isn't—our government isn't in the business of delivering the last mile of happiness, but we absolutely are in the business of delivering the first mile of happiness. Why do we know that? Because that charge, that mission, is in our founding document. The Declaration of Independence says that amongst the inalienable rights enjoyed by all human beings is the right to pursue happiness. So that means that our job, charged to us by our Founders, is to set up rules of the economy, rules of society, rules of culture, that give people the best shot at achieving happiness.

So it is time that we take a big step back as policymakers and ask, if a job or rising GDP or a safe neighborhood isn't bringing people happiness, what does? And all I am suggesting today is that we engage in a conversation together—an apolitical, nonpartisan conversation—to try to discover the roots of American unhappiness, because it doesn't appear that just dialing the knobs of public policy to the right, as happened under Trump's Presidency, or to the left, under Biden's Presidency, is changing this long-term dynamic of more Americans reporting being unsatisfied with their lives.

Let me just tease this conversation with two routes to happiness that we don't talk enough about. The first is connection. In fact, if you look at longitudinal surveys of Americans' happiness, there is a seminal study done by Harvard where they study, over the course of 75 years, Americans of every income bracket, of every race and ask them questions every year: Are you happy, and, if so, why are you happy?

What they found and what many other surveys found is that it is not a job or career or how much money you make but your relationships—your connections to other human beings—that actually is most indicative, most predictive of whether you will report being happy and fulfilled in your life. And so it shouldn't be surprising or shocking to us that during a moment where more Americans are reporting feeling deeply lonely, we are also seeing more people reporting being unhappy.

There has been a sea change in this country, over the last 20 years, when it comes to the amount of time that we spend with other human beings, and the data is particularly acute for young people, but it is true of adults as well. We spend nearly half as much time today with other human beings in personal connection than we did just 30 years ago. That is a catastrophic decline in socialization.

There are lots of reasons for that, but many of them are connected to public policy choices that we have made. We decided not to regulate this transformative new technology called smartphones, nor the apps that dominate those smartphones, social media.

That technology has facilitated this withdrawal from socialization, from connection, from conversation.

We haven't meaningfully adjusted wages in this country. So people are being forced to work 70 hours now to enjoy the same quality of life that 40 hours of work would have 40 years ago. What does that mean? People are robbed of leisure time. So they can't connect with friends and neighbors through socialization in the evenings or on the weekends.

We have undermined the places where people often find connection, like downtowns, which are less healthy, less vibrant than ever before, as we created an economy where everybody just buys stuff from a set of big monopolistic, internationalized companies.

And so what we know is that feeling connected to other human beings, having strong relationships, is maybe most predictive of whether or not you are going to be happy, but we make public policy choices consistently to make connections harder, not easier. But we don't measure it. We don't measure it. Instead, we just measure things like unemployment and GDP, which are important, but not most predictive of whether people are going to be happy.

Let me give you a second way that people find a route to happiness, and that is living a life of purpose—knowing what your role is in the world and living a life that fulfills that role.

Well, let's be honest. Many of the ways in which people found purpose 50 years ago are not available to them today. One purpose, for instance, was passing along a better life to your kids, making sacrifices as an adult—tough, difficult sacrifices—but knowing that those sacrifices were going to allow for your child to be better off than you. Well, that purpose feels further away than ever before today because we have made it so hard for parents to be able to pass on that better life.

College is 400 percent less affordable today than it was in 1980. Economic mobility is more difficult than before, in part because we favor legacy admissions in colleges, in part because we allow for so much massive transfer of inherited wealth. Economic mobility is further away.

So we have robbed from individuals that sense of meaning and purpose, passing along a better life to your children. Other people found purpose in serving God, living a life in accordance with religious tradition, securing a place in the afterlife. But in a very short period of time, we went from 70 percent of people belonging to church to 50 percent of people belonging to church.

Now, I don't think there is a government solution to reverse that trend, but we need to admit that it is another example of how very quickly people have become unmoored from a place where they previously found all sorts of purpose and meaning. And if we are not talking about trying to create al-

ternative places where people can find that purpose or, perhaps, working together to find a way to make those institutions, like churches, healthier places, then we are not connecting in to the roadways, to the pathways to happiness, connection, meaning, purpose.

I get it. These are hard topics for policymakers to talk about. They feel more natural for philosophers or academics or theologians. But our Founders told us in the Declaration of Independence that we need to be in the happiness business, and we have made some likely wrong assumptions about what leads people to happiness. We have become such a materialistic world, and we have become such a materially focused institution that we make an incorrect assumption that, by changing the rules of the economy, we are automatically providing people a route to happiness. But it is not always economic change. It is not always economic policy that provides people meaning, provides people purpose, makes people feel happy.

So these are the questions that I think we should be answering. I think it is a really lovely way for us to set aside some of the policy fights that have worn this place out.

What brings meaning? What brings purpose? What makes you feel happy? Ask those questions, and then let's let those answers guide the policies that we can work on together. I frankly think that we would be surprised to find out that inquiry and the policies that inquiry commands us to pursue might not divide us as much as policy arguments that currently dominate this business.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, as we near the end of the fiscal year 2024 appropriations process, I would like to thank Vice Chair COLLINS and Chair MURRAY, as well as my fellow committee members. The Labor-HHS appropriations bill, the largest non-Defense appropriations bill, is one of the most difficult appropriations bills to negotiate.

I see my chair over there. So it is good to be together again.

It is not a stretch to say that every year, when we go into appropriations season, it is assumed that Labor-H will be one of the hardest bills to pass. And many times it is. This is the first year that Senator BALDWIN and I have been at the helm of the Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee, and I am pleased to say we were able to work together to present a bipartisan Senate bill last summer that laid the groundwork for this final compromise bill.

First, I want to thank all of my colleagues, and I want all of my colleagues to know that in this bill we continue all longstanding legacy riders, such as Hyde and Hyde-Weldon conscience protections. And I want to

make it clear that we worked together to avoid any new poison pill funding for controversial programs, such as title X family planning.

While we each approached this bill differently, it was important to present a bipartisan result, including Member priorities, such as greater investments in biomedical research, pandemic preparedness, mental health, childcare and education, efforts to combat the opioid epidemic, and rural health.

Our final bill includes \$194.4 billion in base discretionary funding, which is \$12.9 billion below the 2023 enacted level. Even with additional resources added, the Labor-H bill represents a 1-percent reduction from 2023 levels.

The final bill also allocates limited resources to certain programs by reducing funding by approximately \$630 million across 35 different programs.

The Labor-HHS bill provides an increase of \$300 million for the National Institutes of Health. This funding provides targeted increases for research in specific areas that are so important, such as Alzheimer's, mental health, and cancer, including funding—one that I am particularly interested in—the Childhood Cancer STAR Act.

We also continue efforts to fight the growing prevalence of substance use disorder. This bill provides \$4.95 billion in funding across the bill for addiction prevention, research, and recovery programs. Investments to address this epidemic include \$1.57 billion for State opioid response grants to address the opioid epidemic in ways that suit individual States' needs; \$2 billion for the substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services block grant—again, giving our States the ability to address the issues—and \$640.5 million for the NIH, for their program Helping to End Addiction Long-term, also known as the NIH HEAL Initiative.

Additionally, we direct more resources to telehealth and rural healthcare programs that help States like my State of West Virginia.

Rural healthcare will receive an additional \$4 million to improve rural maternity and obstetrics services, and an additional \$4 million for a new rural hospital stabilization program.

This Labor-HHS bill prioritizes our children, starting with early childhood education to ensure children are ready to learn when they enter school, and continues investments for students in high school and college to make sure they are prepared for the jobs today and for those jobs in the future.

Specifically, we provide a \$725 million increase for the child care and development block grant and a \$275 million increase for Head Start, both to support early childhood education; a \$20 million increase for title I grants to local educational agencies to support K through 12 students in low-income schools; and a \$20 million increase for IDEA grants to States, which provides special ed services for our students with disabilities; additionally, \$7,395 for the maximum Pell grant award for

the 2024–2025 school year to support low-income students pursuing postsecondary education.

The Labor-HHS section of this mini-bus isn't what any of us would have written individually. However, it reflects a four corners negotiation with bipartisan priorities, it protects all legacy riders, and it did not provide any new funding for any poison pill programs.

I stand here today to tell you that this bill can help our fellow citizens, but I am also happy to report that this bill will have a tremendous impact on the people of the State of West Virginia. One of the reasons I am proud to be on this Appropriations subcommittee is because of the impact that we can each have on our home States, and this bill demonstrates that. The priorities that I have advocated for since I started in the Senate and the experiences I have seen and learned from advocates, community leaders, patients and doctors, students, teachers, and parents throughout West Virginia are why I wanted to help write this bill.

So this bill includes ways to grow nursing programs where we have shortages and to look into addiction treatment and recovery programs. It helps with hospital expansions and improvements and workforce initiatives for medical specialties, along with aviation workforce, and water and wastewater technicians.

I cannot list them all, but my partnerships and support for Marshall University, West Virginia University, Bridge Valley Community and Technical College, Shepherd University, the Martinsburg Initiative, Lily's Place, Charleston Area Medical Center, Roane General, Minnie Hamilton Health Center, and numerous other city and county programs are evident by the millions of dollars that we dedicate to the mission and work being done right back home in West Virginia.

Far too often, the Federal Government overlooks what local entities can do to meet the needs and the challenges in their local towns and communities. But do you know what? That is where the solutions are, and they know best. That is why I have been listening to them, and that is why I am bringing those resources home.

I would like to again thank Vice Chair COLLINS and Chair MURRAY—I see her on the floor—and all of the members of this committee here and in the House for reaching this deal.

Now I would like to briefly thank all of the staff who worked to put this product together. Many of them are in the Chamber right now. On my staff: Lindsey Seidman, Ashley Palmer, Emily Slack, Tom Pfeiffer, JT Jezierski, Dana Richter, and Addie Bassali.

On Senator BALDWIN's staff, I would like to thank Mike Gentile, Mark Laisch, Meghan Mott, Kathryn Toomajian, Amanda Beaumont, Erin Dugan, and Janie Dulaney.

With that, I would encourage my colleagues to vote positively on this bill. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I am going to start where my vice chair left off by thanking and appreciating our incredible staff for the hard work and the long hours that they contributed to this product.

Then I want to join my vice chair in appreciating the heroic work of PATTY MURRAY, our committee chair, and SUSAN COLLINS, our committee vice chair, for their leadership in ushering all 12 appropriations bills to the finish line.

I also want to thank Senator CAPITO for her approach and cooperation on the Labor-HHS-Education bill this year.

We started the fiscal year 2024 appropriations process nearly a year ago, including marking up 12 appropriations bills in an overwhelmingly bipartisan process last summer. The Labor-HHS-Education bill was reported out of committee 26 to 2, and I am very proud of that. The goal then was to produce bills free of extreme and partisan policies that could pass the House, pass the Senate, and be signed by the President, and that is what we are here to finish today.

The Labor-HHS-Education bill that is included in this package addresses some of our country's most pressing issues. It invests in our workers, our families, and our economy—from substance use and mental health programs to childcare, to biomedical research, to education programs and workforce training. This bill delivers for the American people. This year, we received 9,185 programmatic appropriations requests from Senators for important programs throughout this bill.

To Senators who might claim they didn't have a say in what is included in this bill, our doors have been open since the process began last year. We have tried to reflect the priorities of every Senator who has engaged in the appropriations process. Balancing the many competing priorities throughout the Labor-HHS-Education bill is difficult in any year, but this year was especially challenging because it includes less overall funding than it did last year. Consequently, this isn't the bill I would have written alone, but it honors the terms of the debt limit deal that was agreed upon last spring.

The Labor-HHS-Education bill included in this package is very much of a compromise, but despite the challenges we faced over many months in writing this bill, I am really proud of our finished product. It rejects proposals included in the House Labor-HHS-Education bill to completely eliminate critical programs. We saved programs such as those that are working to end HIV, ensured initiatives that increase access to contraceptives stay alive and well, and we kept programs in place that deliver support for moms and babies.

It rejected devastating cuts found in the House bill that would have gutted funding for educators and schools, gutted funding for biomedical research, gutted funding for Head Start, and gutted funding for Federal financial aid for college students and public health programs. So we rejected those devastating cuts. It also rejects dozens of extreme policy riders that would have restricted reproductive healthcare and women's freedom to control their own bodies as well as attacks on the LGBTQ community and workers' rights.

In doing so, this Labor-HHS-Education bill protects the vast majority of investments made in the last 2 years and, in some cases, builds upon them.

This bill addresses some of the most pressing needs that I hear about when I am traveling in my home State of Wisconsin. In Wisconsin right now, families are paying 20 percent of their income on childcare, on average, and that is for those who can afford and access it. Over half of Wisconsin is in what we call a childcare desert, meaning that, for every open childcare slot available in their communities, there are three or more children who need it.

I hear from families and businesses and educators about our dire need to invest in childcare, and I am proud to have done just that in this bill. This bill includes an increase of \$1 billion for childcare and Head Start, building on our major gains in the past 2 years. And I want to recognize our full committee chair, PATTY MURRAY, for making this such a high priority.

Look, I know that more needs to be done to fix our childcare system so that it works for families, providers, and our economy, but this is progress. This will help kids get the strong start that they deserve, get parents back into the workforce, and help our businesses get the talent that they need.

I am also proud that we are investing in our future generations' health. To cure the diseases that plague our families and communities, we successfully boosted lifesaving and life-changing biomedical research by \$300 million. We are doubling down on Alzheimer's disease research because we need to find new treatments, preventions, and, ultimately, a cure. As cancer continues to devastate families of all stripes, I am proud to report that we have increased cancer research funding by \$120 million. As we work to address the mental health crisis in our communities, we also increased funding for mental health research.

One issue near and dear to my heart is the issue of opioid use disorder. My mother struggled with addiction to prescription painkillers throughout her life. Sadly, my mother's story is all too common, and the opioid epidemic knows no bounds—geographic or ideological. But in recent years, this crisis has taken to new heights with the increased prevalence of synthetic drugs like fentanyl. While our country grapples with deadly poisonings and

overdoses from fentanyl, this bill protects investments in substance use programs. As an increasing number of individuals, especially youth, are seeking crisis care, it includes an \$18 million increase for the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline that I was so proud to help create.

With more than 100,000 individuals on the organ transplant waiting list, this bill invests in modernizing the Organ Network and Transplantation Network to better serve those families and give those families more hope.

Accessing healthcare in our rural communities is often a challenge. I know we are acutely experiencing this in the western part of Wisconsin right now, and our bill includes targeted increases to rural health to help turn the tides.

Last but certainly not least, our legislation invests in our future. It protects funding for foundational K through 12 and postsecondary education programs that support students and educators. It increases funding for career and technical education while maintaining investments in workforce development programs to help prepare workers for good-paying jobs in in-demand careers. This will help people find careers that provide a stable, middle-class life and help grow our economy.

I wish we could have done more. I am disappointed that this bill isn't able to increase funding for family planning or include larger increases to any number of programs that truly meet the needs of families and communities, but given the hand that we were dealt, I am proud of the investments that we were able to make and protect in this bill.

Nearly 6 months into the fiscal year and nearly a year after we started this appropriations process by soliciting input from every Member of the Senate, it is past time for us to get serious. This bill does that, and I look forward to supporting its passage today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, before I start my remarks in regard to Sudan, I want to thank Senator MURRAY for her incredible leadership in regard to the appropriations issue and Senator COLLINS.

It took a lot of work to get us to where we are now. I urge my colleagues to cooperate so we can get this vote before the government shutdown at midnight. It is a bill that I think we all can support and be proud of. It is not everything that we wanted, but I think the priorities have been protected, and I thank the chairwoman for what she has done in that regard.

SUDAN

Mr. President, in 2018, as the Sudanese people took to the streets to demand change after decades of war, a young woman climbed on the roof of a car. Protesters captured the "Lady Liberty" moment. As she pointed her finger in the air, she read a poem that would become one of the slogans of the Sudanese revolution:

The bullet does not kill. It is the silence of the people that kills.

It is the silence that kills.

I come to the floor today because we cannot be silent about Sudan. We must hold those committing war crimes accountable. I urge the Biden administration to take the critical diplomatic steps to end the conflict in Sudan.

In 2018, when protesters brought down the brutal and genocidal regime, two-thirds were women. They dreamed of a Sudan that was free of oppression, harassment, and sexual violence, a Sudan that would transition to democracy after nearly 30 years of authoritarian rule. But, today, Sudanese women face the brute force of a vicious war between two armed factions: the SAF, the Sudanese Armed Forces, and the RSF, the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces.

Both committed abuses during the civil war in Darfur. In the last year, their actions have been absolutely brutal. They have killed detainees and indiscriminately bombed civilians. They have conscripted children as soldiers. They have looted supplies and attacked aid workers.

One woman told NPR:

If they couldn't steal it, they burned it.

They are targeting non-Arab ethnic groups in Darfur just as they did 20 years ago. Last month, videos emerged of troops chanting ethnic slurs as they paraded the streets, holding decapitated heads.

According to the United Nations, 15,000 people were killed in just one attack; more than 8 million people have fled their homes; 25 million, including 14 million children, need humanitarian assistance.

In addition, Sudanese women face the widespread use of rape as a weapon of war. A 21-year-old survivor said:

I cannot even count how many times I have been raped.

Diplomatic efforts to end the conflict have failed. Cease-fire after cease-fire has been violated. In fact, the violence has intensified. Last December, I called for a special envoy for Sudan in S. Con. Res. 24. I am pleased to see that the Biden administration has named former Congressman Tom Perriello as our Special Representative. I strongly urge the administration to fully staff his office as quickly as possible so that Mr. Perriello can hit the ground running. We have lost too much time as it is.

Mr. Perriello has four Herculean tasks ahead of him. First, he must establish a single diplomatic forum to negotiate a cease-fire. We need one effort that involves Africa, Middle Eastern, and European partners, along with partners from multilateral organizations. Second, he must bring warring parties to the table.

The United States has imposed sanctions on the SAF and RSF. We need others to join us as we pursue additional targets. We must make it clear to the parties—and their foreign back-

ers—that the cost of continued conflict is higher than the cost of coming to the negotiating table.

In the past, Middle Eastern nations, Turkiye, and even Russia have picked sides in Sudan. A recent United Nations report found evidence that the UAE was giving arms to the RSF. According to Sudanese and regional diplomatic sources, Egypt is helping the SAF.

We must be clear: No nation should be providing arms or support to these groups.

Third, the Special Envoy must galvanize the humanitarian response. The SAF is blocking cross-border humanitarian assistance from Chad. There are reports that they are obstructing assistance to areas controlled by the other side. That must end.

At the same time, it is a moral stain on the international community that the U.N. appeal for Sudan is funded at just 4 percent. The United States is by far the biggest donor. We put our money where our mouth is. Partners with interests in Sudan, including neighboring countries and especially those in the Gulf, need to do the same.

Finally, the Special Envoy must start the conversation about addressing impunity once and for all.

Last year the International Criminal Court announced an investigation into war crimes and crimes against humanity. The United Nations Human Rights Council established an independent factfinding mission to investigate abuses. On December 6, Secretary Blinken announced he had determined that members of the SAF and the RSF had committed war crimes and that the RSF and allied militias have committed crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing.

The sad truth is, what is happening in Sudan is in, large part, as a result of the lack of accountability for our previous abuses. Many of those involved in today's conflict committed war crimes in the past and were never held accountable.

Maybe things would be different if former dictator al-Bashir had been tried at the Hague. Maybe the SAF would have reformed if high-ranking officials had been held accountable for their atrocities. Maybe the RSF would not exist if the Janjaweed had been accountable for their crimes in Darfur. Maybe if General Hemedti had not been getting flown on the Emirati jet and welcomed by Africa heads of state, things might be different.

One thing is for sure, such crimes must not go unpunished. As chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I will continue to fight for justice and a resolution of this conflict.

To those who continue to commit war crimes in Sudan, know that we will keep fighting to bring you to justice, no matter how long it takes.

To the women and the young people across Sudan who dream of an inclusive political process with civilians in the driver's seat, do not give up hope.

And to the international community and those in the United States who value human life and dignity, now is the time to step up. Now is the time to put an end to this cycle of violence that has plagued this region for generations. Now is the time to end the silence.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

NOMINATION OF ADEEL ABDULLAH MANGI

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, for the first time in American history, a gentleman of Muslim faith has been nominated to serve on a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

What could and should have been a moment of pride has been stained by the nominee, Adeel Mangi, having been subjected to a series—a campaign—of baseless and gross attacks.

Senator BOOKER of New Jersey came to the floor yesterday and gave an eloquent and thorough rebuttal of those attacks, so I won't rehash that. But it is important that my colleagues understand where these attacks came from. It is not just that they were untrue; it is that the whole campaign is a fake.

These attacks are part of a coordinated campaign by the same dark money interests that helped Donald Trump pack our Federal courts and who now want to stop President Biden from confirming qualified nominees who weren't handpicked by those billionaire special interests.

You don't have to search long to see their fingerprints all over this smear campaign. We can start with the main culprit, the Judicial Crisis Network. Let me give you just an overview of what the Judicial Crisis Network is.

The billionaire operation to pack the courts had an operative who was the staff person, essentially, who directed it. His name was Leonard Leo.

Leonard Leo runs a whole array of front groups to obscure what is really going on, sort of like a pea and shell game, only with lots of shells.

This is a diagram that I use about one component of his front group armada. What this reflects is his own companies up here: CRC Advisors, CRC Strategies, and CRC Public Relations. They are the entities through which he extracts money for services, so-called, from this array of corporate entities.

To understand what it is, the real ones here—the real ones here—are called 85 Fund and Concord Fund. Those are twin entities. They share office space and funders and staff. They have around them this array of other entities, none of which are real, all of which are registered fictitious names—fictitious names under Virginia law—under which their real entities are allowed to operate.

In this case, there are six of them, and one of them is this Judicial Crisis Network. This thing is being run through a fake entity that bears the fictitious name of a completely different organization. Behind that are more anonymous funders and screeners

of funding and, ultimately, behind all of that, a bunch of creepy billionaires.

The story of the Judicial Crisis Network is that it was the main group that the operative, Leonard Leo, used to help the billionaires pack the Supreme Court with their handpicked Justices. It spent, for instance, almost \$40 million opposing Merrick Garland's nomination to the Supreme Court and, thereafter, supporting the Trump Justices' confirmations. It took in millions in dark money dollars and individual contributions as big as \$15 million and \$17 million. This is not a grassroots organization; this is a billionaire-funded, multimillion-dollar contribution outfit. And it continues to work today in the service of packing the courts.

It is an organization for the billionaires to work through from behind the scenes through their operative, Leonard Leo.

It launched against Mr. Mangi a \$50,000 ad campaign called "Stop Anti-semitic Adeel," in which a video plays saying the Senate should reject "anti-Semitic Adeel Mangi," and—just to make the point even more grotesque—showing a plane flying into the World Trade Center. Classy stuff.

It has tweeted and promoted the false attacks that Senator BOOKER described at length over the past 2 months. In recent days, as the attacks on Mr. Mangi ramped up, the organization tweeted out "It looks like our ad campaign worked." This ad campaign had nothing to do with truth. It was all about using secret billionaire money to derail a circuit court nominee who had not been blessed by this outfit and the billionaires behind them.

Leonard Leo, as the billionaires' operative, had his fingerprints all over—smears by another dark-money group attacking Mangi. This one is run by a former Neil Gorsuch clerk who also oversaw the Kavanaugh nomination on the Republican side.

Because this is a dark-money group, we don't know all of its donors, but we do know at least two. And the first is—guess who?—the Judicial Crisis Network. It is the hand in the glove in the glove.

JCN—Judicial Crisis Network—helped get the second organization off the ground with more than a quarter of a million dollars in 2018 and 2019. When the new organization launched, its leader tweeted:

Excited to work hand-in-glove with [a person named Carrie Severino, who is a Judicial Crisis Network lead operative] my other long-time friends at JCN, and many others on the outside who understand the critical importance of the judicial fight.

And, specifically, he means the critical importance to billionaires to be able to control the judiciary and get things done that Congress would never pass through courts that will do their bidding.

The dark money ties don't stop just there with the Judicial Crisis Network front group and the front group for the

Judicial Crisis Network. The front group organization's vice president comes straight out of the Koch brothers—K-o-c-h, not C-o-k-e—the Koch political dark money network. That guy helped run multiple Koch political organizations, including the dark money flagship of the Koch political machine called Americans for Prosperity.

While there, guess what. He helped oversee Americans for Prosperity's multimillion-dollar campaign to pressure Senators to confirm Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh.

Who is the other big donor? Donald Trump. Earlier this week, it was reported that Trump's PAC gave the organization \$150,000 to keep up the dirty work. The leader of this group wrote an op-ed calling Mr. Mangi "Hamas's favorite judicial nominee" and included a picture of Mangi with the Hamas flag edited to appear over his face—classy stuff, again—and tweeted that Mangi should "Go serve as a judge in Gaza, you antisemite"—just beautiful stuff.

Leonard Leo and Trump World are also propping up yet another dark-money group attacking Mangi and other Biden nominees, the Conservative Partnership Institute.

The New York Times recently called the Conservative Partnership Institute "a breeding ground for the next generation of Trump loyalists." It has received millions of dollars from Donors Trust, which is widely known as the "dark money ATM of the right." It builds no product; it offers no service. What it does is launders the identity of donors so that if you are a big donor and you want to send money into politics, you send it to Donors Trust first, and then the report sent to the 501(c)(4) says the source is Donors Trust and not whoever really gave it. That is what it lives to do, and hundreds of millions of dollars flow through it. It also received \$1 million from Trump's PAC in 2021.

CPI is quite a cast of characters, folks like Mark Meadows, Steve Miller, Cleta Mitchell, and Jeffrey Clark. One of its projects has been to find bad-faith ways to sink qualified Biden nominees, and Mangi is just the latest of its targets. This same group was behind the false attacks on Ketanji Brown Jackson that smeared her as lenient on sex offenders.

These groups are spending millions in dark money from Leonard Leo, from Donald Trump, and from billionaires like the Kochs to keep the Federal courts stacked in their favor. They want to stop President Biden's nominees who weren't handpicked by them in some Federalist Society back room by billionaires and their fixers.

It is not just Mangi who is their target. They have tried to smear many other Biden nominees, and there is an unusual concentration in their targets of people of color. They seem to have a particular fixation with people of color.

They ran the despicable ads accusing Ketanji Brown Jackson of being "more concerned about the well-being of

pedophiles than the safety" of children. Judicial Crisis Network spent \$1.5 million on ads attacking Justice Jackson during her confirmation. Again, that is the fake group with a fictitious name that actually is Concord Fund but purports to be something different.

Judicial Crisis Network also spent more than \$1 million on a smear campaign against Vanita Gupta and \$300,000 on a campaign attacking Dale Ho, both extremely qualified candidates of color.

JCN's president has written numerous op-eds calling nominees of color, like Judge Nancy Abudu on the Eleventh Circuit, the first Black woman ever on the Eleventh Circuit, "ideologues" and "extremists."

These groups have waged similar smear campaigns in other committees than Judiciary, with qualified nominees of color like Saule Omarova for the Department of the Treasury and Lisa Cook at the Federal Reserve getting the smear treatment.

Adeel Mangi is an eminently qualified nominee. He comes across with all the dignity and decorum of an Oxford don. He is as well-trained and intelligent as any candidate who has ever come before the Judicial Committee. He has been the subject of vicious, bad-faith attacks, and the attacks come from this billionaire-funded, rightwing apparatus.

It is a scheme. It is not just a smear; it is an op. It is a covert operation designed to prevent the Biden administration from confirming well-qualified, fairminded judges to our courts so that they can create a vacancy so that if they can get Donald Trump elected in November, they can then put another rightwing extremist who will do what the billionaires want onto the court.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into a colloquy with the senior Senator from Maine.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNRWA

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, UNRWA is a completely irredeemable organization. Since October 7, we have seen how much Hamas has infiltrated UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for the Palestinians. In fact, some have called UNRWA a front organization for Hamas.

UNRWA staff participated in the October 7 attacks. Some participated in the attacks directly. Some helped with logistics. One hostage alleges that her captor was an UNRWA teacher. Another UNRWA staffer was actually a commander who participated in an attack on a kibbutz that left 97 people dead and took 26 hostages.

Regrettably, this does not come as a surprise. Because of previous U.N. investigations into UNRWA, we knew this was true before the October 7 attacks. We knew that UNRWA was using

schools to store weapons and launch attacks on Israel. We knew that their textbooks preached hate toward Jews and Israel and glorified martyrdom.

I introduced this amendment because funding an organization like UNRWA that is so deeply embedded in Hamas is wrong. Our U.S. taxpayer dollars should not be going to fund an organization that is essentially a front for Hamas. This Chamber's ultimate goal should be to permanently defund UNRWA—defund it the way the Trump administration did.

I spoke with the Senator from Maine, and she and I have agreed that we will continue to fight to ensure that future appropriations to deny UNRWA access—she assured me that she will continue to fight against future appropriations, to deny UNRWA access to U.S. taxpayer dollars. This underlying bill does that for 1 year, and that is a start.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I very much appreciate the comments of the Senator from Nebraska. I agree with him that UNRWA cannot be the conduit for humanitarian aid. It is clear that it has been infiltrated by Hamas, and indeed Israeli intelligence indicates that specific employees—employees—of UNRWA were involved in the brutal atrocities of October 7 when Hamas attacked Israel. In addition, it is estimated that many other employees of UNRWA are sympathetic to Hamas or affiliated with Hamas.

So American tax dollars should not be going through an organization that has been involved—some of its employees—in a terrorist attack, one of the worst terrorist attacks we have seen, a terrorist attack that resulted in the worst loss of Jewish life in a single day since the Holocaust. How could we possibly allow American tax dollars to be used by this organization?

Now, this is not to say there should not be aid. There are differing views on that issue. But we know there are other organizations within the U.N.—there is the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees organization. There is UNICEF. There is the World Food organization. There are many other organizations.

For me, Mr. President, what was most compelling is when I learned that Hamas had a major communications and command control center underneath UNRWA's headquarters, and there were additional Hamas organizations that had locations in the tunnels underneath UNRWA's schools. Now, tell me, how could UNRWA possibly not have known this was occurring? How could they not have seen the tunnels being built, the air-conditioners being brought in, the computers being installed, their electric rate going way up? It is just not conceivable that UNRWA was unaware of all of this.

As my friend from Nebraska has mentioned, we know that far too many of the schools UNRWA is running in Gaza teach hatred in their textbooks—

teach hatred not only of Israel but of Jews in general.

It is totally unacceptable that American tax dollars would go to this organization. There are alternatives. That is why, in the supplemental appropriations bill, which I know the Presiding Officer feels so deeply about, as do I—in that bill, we defunded UNRWA and we said that dollars from previous appropriations could not be used by UNRWA. In the bill that is incorporated and before us today—the State, Foreign Ops bill, which is part of the six-bill package—we also defund UNRWA, and we extended it beyond the end of this fiscal year. We extended it to March of 2025 to ensure there wasn't a gap and give us time.

I do pledge to my colleague from Nebraska to continue to work on this issue about which I feel so strongly. I will continue to work with him, and I very much appreciate the opportunity to engage in this colloquy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I am grateful for the senior Senator from Maine's commitment to defunding UNRWA and grateful as well for her pointing out that there are other ways to provide aid to Gaza.

I would also like to point out that when the Trump administration denied UNRWA funding a few years ago, the world did not come to an end. So I do believe, as the senior Senator from Maine pointed out, there are alternatives.

With her commitment, which I appreciate, for that reason, I will no longer seek a vote on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, first let me express my appreciation to the Senator from Nebraska.

I will ask unanimous consent that a story from the Wall Street Journal on this very issue be printed in the RECORD. I would note that this story estimates that approximately 10 percent of UNRWA's staff in Gaza has links to the Hamas militants.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INTELLIGENCE REVEALS DETAILS OF U.N. AGENCY STAFF'S LINKS TO OCT. 7 ATTACK

(By Carrie Keller-Lynn and David Luhnow)

TEL AVIV.—At least 12 employees of the U.N.'s Palestinian refugee agency had connections to Hamas's Oct. 7 attack on Israel and around 10% of all of its Gaza staff have ties to Islamist militant groups, according to intelligence reports reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.

Six United Nations Relief and Works Agency workers were part of the wave of Palestinian militants who killed 1,200 people in the deadliest assault on Jews since the Holocaust, according to the intelligence dossier. Two helped kidnap Israelis. Two others were tracked to sites where scores of Israeli civilians were shot and killed. Others coordinated logistics for the assault, including procuring weapons.

Of the 12 Unrwa employees with links to the attacks, seven were primary or secondary school teachers, including two math

teachers, two Arabic language teachers and one primary school teacher.

The information in the intelligence reports—based on what an official described as very sensitive signals intelligence as well as cellphone tracking data, interrogations of captured Hamas fighters and documents recovered from dead militants, among other things—were part of a briefing given by Israel to U.S. officials that led Washington and others to suspend aid to Unrwa.

Intelligence estimates shared with the U.S. conclude that around 1,200 of Unrwa's roughly 12,000 employees in Gaza have links to Hamas or Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and about half have close relatives who belong to the Islamist militant groups. Both groups have been designated as terrorist organizations by the U.S. and others. Hamas has run Gaza since a 2007 coup.

"Unrwa's problem is not just 'a few bad apples' involved in the October 7 massacre," said a senior Israeli government official. "The institution as a whole is a haven for Hamas' radical ideology."

An Unrwa spokesperson on Monday declined to comment, saying an internal U.N. investigation into the agency was underway.

Two officials familiar with the intelligence said the Unrwa employees considered to have ties with militant groups were deemed to be "operatives," indicating they took active part in the organization's military or political framework. The report said 23% of Unrwa's male employees had ties to Hamas, a higher percentage than the average of 15% for adult males in Gaza, indicating a higher politicization of the agency than the population at large.

Nearly half of all Unrwa employees—an estimated 49%—also had close relatives who also had official ties to the militant groups, especially Hamas, the intelligence reports said.

In the aftermath of Oct. 7, as Israel has waged war against Hamas in Gaza, Unrwa has emerged as one of the loudest voices decrying the impact of the fierce fighting on Palestinians in the enclave, where authorities say more than 26,000 people have been killed. Unrwa says at least 152 of its own staff have been killed in the conflict.

The agency is also the main pillar of operations to move food, aid, medicine and other humanitarian supplies into Gaza.

The vast majority of Unrwa's 30,000 staff across the Middle East are Palestinian, and Israel and some in the U.S. have long accused it of nurturing anti-Israeli sentiment in crowded refugee camps that have been important recruiting grounds for militant groups, including Hamas.

The Trump administration suspended funding for Unrwa in 2018, saying the agency's mission was fundamentally misguided. The Biden administration renewed funding in 2021.

The Oct. 7 intelligence reports seen by the Journal identified an Unrwa Arabic teacher who the reports said was also a Hamas militant commander and took part in a terrorist attack on Kibbutz Be'eri, where 97 people were killed and about 26 people were kidnapped and taken as hostages to Gaza.

Another Unrwa employee, described in the dossier as an Unrwa social worker, played a role in absconding with the body of a dead Israeli soldier, which was taken to Gaza, the reports said. He also coordinated trucks and munitions distributions for Hamas before being killed.

A person familiar with the dossier said that after U.S. officials were briefed on the intelligence material, they alerted Unrwa, which put out a statement announcing the allegation that some of its employees were linked to the attacks and saying it had fired

the employees involved. It provided no details, and didn't say how many employees were involved.

On Sunday, U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres said he was personally horrified by the allegations.

Unrwa commissioner-general Philippe Lazzarini criticized Western nations for pausing aid at a time when Gaza is facing a humanitarian crisis as the war between Hamas and Israel rages. Guterres also implored nations to not suspend humanitarian aid.

It is "immensely irresponsible to sanction an agency and an entire community it serves because of allegations of criminal acts against some individuals," Lazzarini said.

Unrwa looks after more than 5 million Palestinians in densely-packed refugee neighborhoods across the Middle East, including the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. But its biggest operations are in Gaza, where it looks after an estimated 80% of the local population and runs hundreds of schools and scores of clinics.

Israel says it has documented deepening ties between Unrwa and Hamas since the militant group cemented its hold on Gaza in 2007. Unrwa has admitted to finding Hamas weapons stored in schools and Israel has repeatedly said Hamas tunnels run under and through Unrwa buildings as well as other civilian facilities. The former head of Unrwa's union in Gaza was fired in 2017 after Israel found out he had been elected to Hamas' top political leadership.

The dossier is the most detailed look yet at the widespread links between the Unrwa employees and militants. It offers telling details regarding the events of Oct. 7.

A math teacher belonging to Hamas was close enough to a female hostage in Gaza that he took a picture of her. Another teacher was carrying an antitank missile the night before the invasion.

One Unrwa employee set up an operations room for Palestinian Islamic Jihad on Oct. 8, the day after the attack. Three other employees, including another Arabic teacher at an Unrwa school, received a text from Hamas to arm themselves at a staging area close to the border the night before the attack. It was unclear whether they went.

A different elementary school teacher did cross into Israel and went to Reim, a district where a kibbutz, an army base and a music festival were attacked.

One of the intelligence reports seen by the Journal said a 13th Unrwa employee, who didn't have a discernible affiliation with a terror group, also entered Israel. Hundreds of Gazan civilians flooded across the border as part of the Hamas-led attack, Israel says.

Teachers make up nearly three-quarters of Unrwa's Gaza-based local staff. Unrwa schools, which use textbooks approved by the Palestinian Authority, have come under fire for using materials that allegedly glorify terrorists and promote hatred of Israel. Unrwa says it has taken steps to address problematic content, but a 2019 U.S. Government Accountability Office report said that measures haven't always been implemented.

Since Oct. 7, Hamas has stolen more than \$1 million worth of Unrwa supplies, including fuel and trucks, according to the intelligence report. The intelligence assessment alleges that Hamas operatives are so deeply enmeshed within the Unrwa aid-delivery enterprise as to coordinate transfers for the organization.

CORRECTIONS & AMPLIFICATIONS

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency, known as Unrwa, was incorrectly referred to as Unrwa in one instance in an earlier version of this article. (Corrected on Jan. 29.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

H.R. 2882

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, before I suggest the absence of a quorum, I do want to just briefly respond to some of the comments that were made by my distinguished colleague from Kentucky, Senator RAND PAUL, earlier.

The first is that he is correct that a lot of the increase in spending is on the mandatory entitlement side of the budget, but that is not what the Appropriations Committee handles. That is not under our jurisdiction.

The second point that I want to make is that in this six-bill package, the amount of spending in the non-defense discretionary area is actually below last year. It is 1.7 percent below last year. When you factor in inflation, that means there are real cuts that these Agencies and programs are going to be experiencing. There is a 3.3-percent increase for defense, but that, too, is below the inflation rate. When you look at the global threats our combatant Commanders have identified, we should be spending more for defense than that.

The final point I will make is that we have adhered to the Fiscal Responsibility Act caps on spending in this bill, the final six-bill package, and the overall bills we have brought forth.

So we have also accommodated and followed the agreement that was negotiated between the Speaker of the House and the Democratic leader of the Senate. So these bills are not big spending bills that are wildly out of scope. They are carefully drafted, they are conservative, and they meet the requirements of the FRA and the top line established by the leaders.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Colorado.

H.R. 2882

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I know my time might be short tonight because we finally have come, I guess, to an agreement about a vote, but I wanted to come tonight to the floor to talk about why I am voting against this bill.

I am going to vote against this bill because the House has sent it over here without funding in it to support Ukraine, and I think that is shameful. I think that is a complete abdication of the House's responsibility to our own national security and to democracy around the world.

It is common to come out here and criticize the U.S. Senate. I have done it many times. But I was grateful to be part of the Senate when we had about a 6-month negotiation about whether

or not to pass what was called the supplemental, which was a budget bill to, among other things, fund Ukraine. There was money in that for Ukraine. There was money in that for Taiwan. There was money in that for Israel. There was humanitarian aid in there as part of that deal as well.

There was a lot of disagreement about a lot of things, but over a 6-month period, we actually finally came to a bipartisan agreement and got 70 votes. You almost never get 70 votes for anything in this place unless it is easy.

You almost never get 70 votes for anything in this place that is hard. Yet we were able to get 70 votes. We were able to put together a coalition of Democrats and Republicans to send a message to the House that funding Ukraine was very important and that the U.S. Senate, despite our disagreements over many, many things, we are united in the idea that we have an obligation to fulfill here on behalf of our national security, on behalf of democracy, on behalf of the fight that Ukraine has led.

We had to overcome, to be sure, isolationist voices—mostly in the Republican Party—during that debate. There are people making arguments from that isolationist wing of the Republican Party that we heard before World War I, that we heard before World War II. It is not an unknown tradition in American history that people would come out and make those arguments. It is such a known tradition that the people who are advancing those arguments are calling themselves by the same name of some of the folks who were the most ardent isolationists before World War II. America Firsters is what they called themselves back then, and that is what they are calling themselves again.

You would have thought they would have learned history's lesson based on the way history shone on the last version of the American Firsters. They were trying to keep us out of World War II. When my mom was being born in 1938 in Warsaw, Poland—a Polish Jew—the country was completely run over or was about to be run over by the Nazis. But all these years later, you hear the same people, the same wing of the same party making the same arguments once again, and the arguments just don't make any sense.

One of the ones that I think is hardest to understand is this argument that we can't simultaneous support Ukraine—we, the United States of America, cannot simultaneously support Ukraine and prepare for a possible conflict with China, which I am sure nobody here would wish. I certainly don't wish for that conflict. But it is more than hypothetical; it is possible that someday we might be in conflict. But the idea that we would stop supporting Ukraine in an actual conflict against tyranny, in an actual conflict against fascism, in the hope that we would somehow be better prepared for later makes absolutely no sense.

Then when you look at the contents of the bills themselves, the bills that we passed as part of the supplemental, and you see the money that is being spent all across America, in 40 States, in 70 cities—our industrial production for our military is up 20 percent since Russia invaded Ukraine because we were not investing in our production before that happened. That was a threat to our national security. And we are doing it now all over this country, all over the United States. In big cities and little cities, in rural communities and urban communities, that is what we are doing. We are retooling our defense complex.

If I accept, if I grant the isolationist wing's view of this, what I would say is that even based on your own arguments, you should be for these bills because these bills are making the United States stronger; they are refreshing our industrial base, our military base; and they are making us more prepared not just for what is going on in Russia today but for what could go on in China.

I mean, it is utterly self-explanatory, and that is why I think it is actually an excuse for not engaging. I think it is an isolationist impulsive tendency that we have seen before. We saw it when the United States shamefully didn't get into World War II until years after we should have, and we are seeing it again here. But this is a different case than that because we are not talking about American troops; we are just talking about American support.

So we are talking about retooling our industrial base. We are talking about creating jobs here in the United States. We are talking about spending the vast majority of money that we authorized in that bill in the United States of America—not in Ukraine but here.

I suppose it would be one thing if Ukraine hadn't earned our support, but on top of everything else, they have. In the last 2 years since they were invaded—an invasion they did not ask for—they have done everything the world could have asked of them—more than the world could have asked of them.

You know, it is another point here, too, that we are not sending them our fanciest equipment either. We are sending them older equipment that is a lot better than the Soviet-age equipment they had. But it is allowing us to have the newest versions of this. We are sending older versions of that equipment to Ukraine, but they have used it magnificently. I am on the Intelligence Committee, and the intelligence community is telling us that the Ukrainian people have fought magnificently.

I have heard some of the isolationists on the other side of the aisle say: Well, we don't know where the money is being spent, and therefore we shouldn't spend any more money. I think it is safe to say that there is no enterprise in the world—I choose my words carefully—there is no enterprise in the world that has a better set of receipts

than the men and women who have been fighting on the Ukrainian frontline. I challenge any of those people to show me where they said that Ukraine was going to throw Putin off half the territory he took from them, but they have; that they would be able to attack his so-called, you know, impregnable supersonic missiles, but they have. The Ukrainian people don't even have a navy, really. I don't mean any offense, but it is true. They don't really have a navy, and yet they have been able to keep Putin out of the Black Sea. That has meant that wheat has been able to be transported from Ukraine all over the world so people can eat. These fighters have the receipts. It is in the success they have had.

It is important to understand that this isn't just a fight for Ukraine, which they have fought magnificently. It is a fight for the West. It is a fight for NATO. It is a fight for democracy itself.

They didn't ask for this fight. President Zelenskyy never asked for this fight. Three years ago, he was on a television program, and then he ran for President, and he got elected because there was such concern about corruption in the country. They said: You know what, we are going to put a television guy in charge, and maybe he will do better.

Then Putin invaded his country, thinking that he was going to be able to decapitate the regime in 72 hours, thinking that Zelenskyy was going to run, thinking that they wouldn't stand up to his invasion—the first invasion since we settled all this stuff at the end of World War II with global order and commitment to the rule of law.

My mom is still alive, my mom whom I mentioned earlier. Born in 1938, she is still alive. She can't believe she has lived long enough to see another land war break out in Europe. I suppose, seen from a different way, it is an incredible testament to the institutions that have been built and the alliances that have been built that it has been so long since we have had somebody with the audacity to do what Putin has done. But thank God he ran into the Ukrainians—for all of us—because we don't have to send our people there, and NATO does not have to send their people there.

They are willing to fight and die for democracy, and they are asking us to support them—not with our people but with our military support and with a little bit of money.

As I mentioned earlier, we passed a bill with 72 votes over here to fund the effort in Ukraine, and the House of Representatives has completely ignored it. That same isolationist wing that is over here—that is now over there in the House of Representatives is declining to fulfill our responsibilities to the rest of the world, and they have left town today without having supported Ukraine.

I want to say, by the way, as I stand here that there has been an incident in

Moscow today or outside of Moscow, and I am very sorry for the theatergoers who are there who lost their lives—further illustration of how complicated this world is.

But let me tell you something: There is nobody more cheerful about the House of Representatives' failure to pass the Senate bill than Vladimir Putin. He reads our newspapers. He reads our social media. He manipulates our social media. He knows what is at stake, and the Ukrainians know what is at stake.

This is not fanciful, the questions that are at risk here. Look what happened just in the last few weeks in Russia. Vladimir Putin got reelected by something over 95 percent of the vote in Moscow, and of course it was completely manipulated, and he went out and said: This is an endorsement for my war. This fraudulent election is an endorsement of my war.

Look what happened in Hong Kong last weekend, where the Chinese Communist Party from Beijing has completely thrown out the rule book in Hong Kong, which has a long tradition of commitment to the rule of law, free enterprise, a place where you can predictably run a business or have a newspaper, have opposition. This weekend, they sucked out the last embers that were glowing there of the right to be able to do that stuff. So now you can get a life in prison—maybe even worse than a life in prison—in Hong Kong if you defy what Beijing says, just like Alexei Navalny, the leading opposition figure in Russia, who was put in prison by Putin and now, you know, died of natural causes in his early forties because Putin killed him while—while—Members of this Congress were at Munich during the Security Conference. He knew exactly what the message was he was sending: I care so little about your opinion of this that I am going to kill Alexei Navalny while you are all there.

So I am going to come to an end because I can tell people need to move on to the next thing, but let me just say that, contrary to what I have heard in the debate around here, the Ukrainians have succeeded beyond anybody's wildest dreams.

The evidence is so clear that that is true. Even the most recent town that was defeated, which was a smoldering ruin by the time the Russians got there—Avdiivka—it took the Russians 6 months and 30,000 troops to get that village. And the alliances held otherwise, notwithstanding the fact that they are out of bullets, notwithstanding the fact that they are out of artillery. At this point, in some ways they are kind of fighting with their bare hands, which is how they started in this war.

We have a responsibility here that is not a service to Ukraine. This is a service to our national security. This is a service to our kids and to our grandkids. This is a service that is the same as the one that was provided by

the people who, before World War II, were able to overcome the “America First” crowd back then so that America could play its unique role in the world. And this is a service to anybody on planet Earth who cares about freedom, who cares about the ability to have a real debate and a real discussion, who cares about whether there is actually a rule of law in place so might doesn't make right; so that you can open a small business in your village on a corner and know that a gang isn't going to come and steal your money; so that you know that your parents and grandparents aren't going to be locked up with the key thrown away just because they had a different point of view than the ruler of the country.

In human history, it is much more common to see a situation where might makes right than it is for people to exercise those freedoms, and the Ukrainians know that from the guys who are on the frontlines to President Zelenskyy and back. That is why they are fighting so hard for this freedom.

That is why we need to pay attention when Putin takes out his leading opposition. That is why we need to understand the implications for us when China sweeps into Hong Kong and rips away people's freedoms and people's rights in front of the entire world. That is what happens when they shut down opposition newspapers. This is something we should be able to agree on without respect to our political party.

I worry a lot about what is going to happen over the next 2 weeks, because there are people out there who are not telling the truth about what the battle has been in Ukraine. There are people out there—amazingly, to me—who think the United States can't support Ukraine effectively and prepare for what might be coming down the pike. There are people who don't believe that our military needs to be retooled. I am really worried in this moment that crossing our fingers and hoping for the best is not a recipe for a good outcome here. That is why I believe that it was critical for us to try to force, in this debate, on this bill, the inclusion of Ukraine funding, and I have said that all the way along.

The first funding bill that came over here 6 months ago, I threatened to shut the government down over that bill because it didn't include Ukraine funding. A deal had been cut behind closed doors, between the then-Speaker of the House and others in the House, to allow a bill to come forward without Ukraine funding, and I said to my colleagues here: We have no plan to fund Ukraine.

We had no plan to fund Ukraine, and as a result of that threat, we were able to get commitments from the leaders of the Democratic Party and the Republican Party here that we keep working on it, and we keep working on it.

Several months later, we had this same kind of moment, and we were able to get the same kind of commit-

ment, and because we all worked together on this, notwithstanding the political divisions that exists in our country, we were able to get to that 72-person vote. We were able to show Putin that we were going to stand up against him here—against him here. And, unlike some people here, he knows exactly how things are going on the Ukrainian battlefield. He knows he has got real problems on the Ukrainian battlefield because it took 30,000 people to succeed at the last village that he was able to secure. He knows how this nation of “MacGyvers” has shown up time and time and time again to figure out how to take him on with their fists or with drones or with our help.

But I am sorry to say this, Mr. President. I think it is true that the battlefield that he is trying to succeed on is the battlefield of the U.S. Congress. He thinks he is going to win on this battlefield. He is trying to count on our dysfunction, our division, our petty disagreements, and the lack of understanding about what is at stake here from the historical point of view or from democracy's point of view. With the message that we want to send to our allies and to our foes around the world tonight, he is going to be able to sleep a little better because the House failed to do it.

So I am not here to say that I am going to shut the government down. There is nothing I can do at this point to bring the House of Representatives back to Washington, DC. That is not possible. There wouldn't be any benefit to doing it.

I am going to vote against this bill because it doesn't include the Ukraine funding. And I would say to my colleagues who are here, every single one of whom supported the Ukraine funding when it came through the Senate, that we have got our work cut out for us over the next 2 weeks to make sure that we persuade the people in the House of Representatives that there is no more time left; that the Ukrainians, as I said, are out of bullets, out of ammo, and out of time. And we are out of time too. The whole world is watching.

I don't know the Speaker, but I would be very surprised if he wants to go down in history as the person or the politician who lost Ukraine—who lost Ukraine—because he had to hold on to his job, or who lost Ukraine because there were people in his party who couldn't resist the celebrity benefit of going out and raising money on crazy politics that doesn't recognize the stakes for what they are.

We were able to close over that here in the Senate, and I believe that the House is going to have to do that as well. And we have got to do everything we can to make sure we reach that conclusion, because the consequence for our Nation's reputation will be as severe as anything that we have ever certainly faced in the last decades around here.

Usually, I would end by saying I am confident. What I am confident in is

that there are people of goodwill in this body who have worked together to get this done and who will continue to work together to make sure the United States of America stands up for democracy, stands up for NATO, stands up for our responsibilities to our children and grandchildren and our responsibilities to this world.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, before he leaves the floor, I want to thank my colleague from Colorado. He has been steadfast in his support of the Ukrainian effort, and it makes a difference. I think we all have to speak out with what we are facing. We should have appropriated the money long ago to stand behind the people of Ukraine. And the fact that they are now in a moment of history where their fate may be decided really underlines the importance of the statements of this Senator.

So while this bill we are going to be voting on this evening covers so many areas, it still leaves a terrible gap, not only in our support for Ukraine but also for the humanitarian assistance which was part of our efforts.

When we read of the terrible humanitarian tragedy in Gaza and other places, we realize the United States has to help provide water, food, medicine, and basic supplies for them to survive, just as we need to help the people of Ukraine fight this effort.

Let me just add, parenthetically, a point of personal pride: “60 Minutes,” in a show last week, highlighted Lithuania in the Baltics and how this small country of 3 million people has become a haven for political dissidents from Russia and other places. It is with some risk that they would assume this responsibility, but they are part of a commitment—this small nation—to democracy.

The United States needs to make that same commitment and put our money where our values are. Your speech this evening highlighted that, and I thank you for your leadership.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that, at 6:15 p.m., the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Schydlower nomination and vote on the confirmation of the nomination without further intervening action or debate and with all the previous provisions remaining in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, over the last several days and weeks, I have heard a lot of discussion from some of my colleagues here in the Senate and in the House of Representatives about what they consider to be inappropriate congressionally directed spending projects. The majority of those projects appear to be objectionable simply because the organization involved provides services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans.

First, let me say that all of the CDS projects identified in the Labor-HHS-Education bill were in the Senate bill that was reported out of the Appropriations Committee last summer by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 26 to 2.

Second, and more importantly, I am deeply concerned about why these projects are being singled out. They are being singled out and discriminated against because they serve a particular group of Americans, a group of Americans whom every single one of us in this Chamber represents. We all have gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender constituents, and just like any other group of constituents, they are deserving of getting healthcare, mental health care, affordable housing, and a little help to lead a successful life.

However, the bullying campaign against organizations that help people who are just living their true, authentic lives is just wrong. For example, one project singled out provides services for LGBTQ seniors as part of a housing project. The project is to help low-income seniors age in place. The Labor-HHS-Education bill includes multiple CDS projects that help our seniors get the care and housing they need as they age, but this is the only one that has been on a list as being somehow objectionable.

Another is a federally qualified community health center—basically, one of our community health centers that provides services for individuals struggling with substance use disorder. That organization has noticed an increased need among members of the LGBTQ community and noted in their CDS request that that is a population that they serve and who needs service. For this, the CDS project was again, by some of my colleagues, identified as somehow controversial.

In fact, several of the projects that have been identified as problematic are to provide mental health services to people in the LGBTQ community, including LGBTQ youth. LGBTQ kids are just like any other kids. They have stressors in life. They face depression, anxiety, and other challenges, and they need help navigating it. Some of this criticism has been blatant misinformation, including one in my own home State. An organization in Wisconsin has, for a long period of time, helped kids who experience homelessness get help to get back on their feet with employment help, mental health and counseling, with finding housing, and

more. I was proud to secure funding for a very specific and narrow program of theirs that provides mental health support and counseling for kids experiencing homelessness. This would be for all kids. In fact, the organization does such great work that it has received Federal funding for years, including under the Trump administration, but since the organization has a program—which will get exactly zero dollars of this Federal funding—to help LGBTQ kids, it was ruthlessly attacked and smeared.

These attacks do not live in a vacuum, and they have real-world consequences. When this body says to LGBTQ community members that they are not worthy of our help, what kind of message do you think that sends?

Also, considering that we agree that the country is facing a mental health crisis, why would we be barring resources from helping a certain group of people, particularly a group that is acutely feeling the mental health crisis?

A recent survey of LGBTQ youth revealed that nearly half—nearly half—of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in this past year. Nearly one in four LGBTQ youth attempted suicide, and nearly three in four reported persistent feelings of sadness and hopelessness, but almost 60 percent of LGBTQ youth who wanted mental health care in the past year were not able to access it. These statistics are all young people—someone’s child, sibling, neighbor, student, or classmate—and maybe one or more will occupy these seats, working collaboratively with colleagues to serve their States and their country.

I hope we can pause to consider that when we single out a group of Americans, it has a real impact. Our work and our words here matter, and I hope we can rise above the bullying and can, as we have for months, work across the aisle to deliver for all of our constituents.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of amendment No. 1725, which will be called up later. My amendment is with Senator CRAPO of Idaho, my dear friend. I want to speak a little bit about the EVs—electric vehicles—and the tailpipe emissions rule that has been handed down.

The administration’s electric vehicle policy has been held completely captive by the activist environmental groups and the radical advisers in the White House. I can’t put it any other way than that.

First, they tried to bribe Americans to buy EVs by giving them \$7,500, and now they are trying to mandate that we all must buy them after 2032—because they won’t be produced anymore. So they have changed the rules. They basically tried to bribe them and still couldn’t move them as quickly as they wanted to. Then, on top of that, they

are saying that now we are going to pass a law to where you can't have an option of buying another type of vehicle for transportation.

That is just not the American way. It is not the way we were raised. It is not the way this country grew. Transportation is the foundation of our economy. If you think about it, never in the history of our country have we had to depend on other foreign supply chains—and especially unreliable foreign supply chains—for our transportation: our cars, our trains, our planes, and everything in between. We have been able to do it right here, and now we have thrown everything onto the backs of foreign supply chains because we don't have the critical minerals. We don't basically manufacture, and we don't produce them. We don't do anything with them, and we are trying to get up to speed.

The Inflation Reduction Act was and always will be an American energy security and a manufacturing bill. When I negotiated and started negotiating after the BBB was killed and then the war started in Ukraine, there was one moving factor that urged me to do that internally more than anything else. We couldn't help our allies—those who fought and died with us who needed our help now—and Putin weaponized energy. He weaponized his gas and his oil reserves that went into Europe, and here we were not able to help them at all. I said we had better do something. That is when we started negotiating and working on some way that we could be energy independent.

I will tell the Presiding Officer that, for the first time in 40 years, the United States of America is producing more energy today than ever in the history of this country. We are producing more energy than any other country in the world, and we should be proud of that, but my friends in the White House won't speak about it. All they want to tell you about is the environmental bill. It is the greatest environmental bill. We are producing more energy from wind and solar than ever before. We are doing everything, and they can't accept an all-energy policy, and it is unbelievable. We are replacing some of the dirtiest fuels in the world because of what we are producing—cleaner than anywhere else in the world. Venezuela—we let them back into the market. They wanted more oil in the market. OK. They let Venezuela back in. They produce oil with 80 percent more pollutants—more emissions—than what we ever have.

So, anyway, the Inflation Reduction Act, like I have said before, was an American energy security and domestic energy bill. That is it. Can we have energy security, and can we basically have manufacturing coming back that should have never left, but we allowed it to leave? Let's bring it back so that we don't have to rely on unreliable foreign partners, if you will, foreign entities.

The White House wanted money for EVs. I wanted domestic manufacturing

and a secure supply chain. We were at a standstill, and we couldn't move any further. So we had to compromise, and the compromise was pretty simple. The administration would only get money to incentivize people to buy an EV if we were making and sourcing these ingredients that we needed—the critical minerals—from America or a reliable supply chain, and that supply chain was countries that we already had free-trade agreements with.

Let me make sure you understand. Our main objective for this bill, the IRA, was this: We will not be doing business with foreign countries of concern, and those foreign countries were four, mainly: China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. There is no way we should be depending on anything coming from them—that don't have our values—because they will use it as a wedge.

But the administration has completely liberalized and, in fact, broken the law that we agreed to and actually passed, and we have been having this continuous back-and-forth. I cannot believe, dealing in good faith, that we ended up with what we ended up with. We put strict but achievable standards in the IRA to ensure that China and other nations that don't share our values don't benefit off the backs of the American taxpayers and that we don't willingly give Xi Jinping, the President of China, a geopolitical weapon to use against us. I can guarantee, when he watched Putin weaponize energy, he surely was going to basically use the weaponization of all the critical minerals that we are using and all the things that we depend on from China—that he would have done the same thing with.

I remember waiting in long gas lines in 1974 to buy gasoline to go to work. I can remember those days vividly. I couldn't believe that the United States of America had gotten itself into that mess, but we did, but we got ourselves out of it too. Do you think China is not going to be using that to their advantage to bring us to our knees? Well, I am not going to be waiting in line for a battery to come from China, sir. Sorry.

But last year, the administration proposed cutting in half the IRA's requirements. This is how desperate they are to, basically, disregard the bill that we all agreed on in good faith and signed with the purpose of bringing manufacturing back. But with their ambition to get more EVs out the door quicker than ever before, they cut everything in half.

This is exactly what is written in the bill. This is it. The language is plain. By 2023, you should have 40 percent of the minerals that must be extracted or processed in the United States or free trade agreement countries or recycled in North America—40 percent.

Every year it went up so we would be more and more dependent on America, building up and building, basically, our ability to manufacture. This is exactly what they did.

Do you think it is a coincidence they cut everything in half from 40 percent? Now, this is what they admitted. This is what they are working with. This is their—they call them their new rules they have coming out, according to the Treasurer's proposed rules. I will get into why they call them proposed rules too.

This is what we intended to be self-sufficient. This is exactly what they intended to meet their political agenda to get these out the door quicker, cut everything in half.

The IRA set deadlines. Like I said before, the deadlines were 2023, 2024, to completely remove the countries from the critical minerals and battery manufacturing. We wrote language in the bill. If you read the IRA bill, it is written in there that we cannot do business with China, Russia, Iran, or North Korea. That was the whole purpose. If you are going to go down this path, let's make sure we get something back for the American taxpayers but also for American manufacturing.

But now the IRS is proposing "temporary" exemptions through at least the end of 2026. When have you heard of temporary rules that would go through—they are supposed to be, basically, done by December 31, 2024. They put in their rules 2026 or later—or later.

That is another 3 years of China and other foreign nations reaching deeper into and controlling more of our electric vehicle battery supply chains. The longer we allow this to happen, the longer we allow this to happen by, basically, pushing our American energy and technologies quicker, then basically all we are doing is supporting China and the grip they have on us.

Worse yet, the IRS under this administration seems to have adopted a new legal strategy to avoid any accountability from the courts or Congress. Now, this is the real innovative, creative way they are thinking.

By you issuing "proposed rules" like this and never finalizing them, the IRS can break the law—legally break the law—implement it in any way they wish it was passed. I have said this from day one: You are implementing a piece of legislation you never passed. I tell the White House that every day: You didn't pass this. The law we passed tells you exactly what to do. You are trying to implement something that you would like to do, but you never did.

And they do it with proposed rules because they think that basically protects them from any litigation.

That is a breach of everything that we agreed, a breach of everything that we agreed to in good faith and not the way the government in this great country of ours should ever, ever operate.

Let me be clear, there is no question that the IRA will be one of the most transformative bills in the way it was written. It is an all-of-the-above. It was an all-purpose bill. It was a balance between the energy that we need today,

the fossil fuels, that we are going to do them cleaner, and the technology of the energy we want in the future. That is exactly what the bill was supposed to do. It was supposed to bring back manufacturing that we let go, basically, with the NAFTA agreement—North American Free Trade Agreement—way back when, in the 1980s and 1990s, and then now with what we are dealing with, with bringing China and the WTO in the late 1990s, early 2000s. We have allowed things to leave our country. We should have never allowed the manufacturing base to ever leave.

Let's be clear, there is no question that the IRA will go down as one of the most transformational bills that we have ever passed. It is bringing opportunity. It surely is. It is bringing opportunity in areas that got left behind.

Electric vehicle and battery makers announced \$52 billion in investments in North American supply chains before the IRS even started loosening the rules. They want to come back to America. They want to build. But as long as you basically allow the foreign entities of concern—the Chinas of the world—to continue to flood the market with cheaper prices, our people will never be able to have a foothold as far as manufacturing in the United States. That is the problem.

We knew it would take a couple of years for us to get up to speed, but we will never get up to speed as long as they can still buy cheaper products somewhere else.

Numbers like this show that breaking the law doesn't get us more investment; it just makes the costs go up for every American taxpayer and sends our tax dollars overseas. We are trying to bring that manufacturing back and keep those dollars here, not in China or Russia.

But even bribing Americans with a liberalized, unlawful \$7,500 wasn't good enough for the administration because it doesn't meet their political timetable to eliminate gas-powered vehicles. If they had a good enough product—a product in America—the market usually will react. The market will reject or accept. They won't do it on your timetable. But when you have the government behind you, pushing you in a way to force the options you may have, that is not how we built the country that we have. It is not how we built this capitalist mentality or this entrepreneurship. It is just not who we are.

The EPA piled on by proposing these new tailpipe rules that force automakers to limit consumer choice and force Americans to buy EVs full of Chinese parts. That is exactly what is happening now.

The EPA wants more than two-thirds of the new cars to be electric by 2032, when there is only 8 percent of them that are electric today. They can't meet that goal unless it is buying overseas, which is what we tried to stop. Their intention is to continue to flood the market any way they possibly can

for their own political agenda by their extreme environmental climates at the destruction, basically, of our own jobs, our own economy.

The only way it would be possible to get anywhere close, like I said before, is to do business with other foreign countries, because China has a lock on most of all the markets—anodes, cathodes, 80 percent of that; basically, rare-earth minerals, about 60 to 80 percent of that. They have been doing this for quite a while. We want to get back up to speed, but we can't do it by continuing to support them.

Xi Jinping is already showing that he will use critical minerals as leverage to put Americans and the free world at risk by directing the Chinese Government to implement new restrictions on exports of several critical minerals. Now he really starts putting the choke on us. He sees that we have legislation that is going to force us to buy a product that he has control over.

Can you imagine us getting ourselves into a jam where we are going to be dependent upon China for their critical minerals and the battery components that we need to run the vehicles that we decide to change our transportation mode to before we are ready to do it ourselves? I would expect that from Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party, but I can't believe that we would be dumb enough to play into their hands. It is unbelievable. There is nobody who you can talk to in the industry who doesn't understand exactly what I am saying.

I never could have expected our own government to give up so easily and continue to let foreign—foreign—nations control our Nation's transportation. You know, I even said this to—they told me about all the charging stations that we have to spend billions and billions of dollars on, the Federal Government, the Federal taxpayers. I do not remember when Henry Ford, basically, was able to have the production of the Model T and bring it into mass production where the average person could buy it, that we said: Oh, oh, we have to go out and start building filling stations. I don't think the Federal Government built filling stations to meet the demands of the market. The market did it, and the market will do it again.

They say: Oh, no, we can't do that. We can't take a chance on the market, so let's go ahead and just commit billions and billions of dollars of taxpayers' money to do what the market has always done for America.

I will do everything in my power to hold this administration accountable to the deal we made—and intended to deal; everybody knew about it—to protect America's taxpayers and to secure our energy supply chains.

If we are going to do it, let's do it and benefit from it. Let's build America back. Let's do what we do best. Let's innovate and create. Let's believe in the market and allow the market, basically, to force us to work as it has always worked for America.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment that is coming up because I can tell you one thing: We have got to send a signal that this country is able to take care of itself; we are able to compete for ourselves; and we should not depend on unreliable foreign supply chains for the most critical building blocks of our country.

Transportation basically keeps the lights on. It keeps food on your table. It does everything necessary for us to live a quality of life in this country. To allow and give it up because we are not in control of our transportation mode is absolutely criminal.

With that, I would say I hope all of my colleagues will look at this amendment very seriously and see how important it is for us to maintain this tremendous independence this country has always had.

With that, I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Schydlower nomination.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination of Leon Schydlower, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

NOMINATION OF LEON SCHYDLOWER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Leon Schydlower to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Born in Long Beach, CA, Judge Schydlower received his B.A from the University of Texas at Austin and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law. After completing law school, Judge Schydlower began his legal career in the U.S. Navy, first as an assistant staff judge advocate, then as a military prosecutor. Thereafter, he joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii as a special assistant U.S. attorney, where he handled Federal law enforcement cases at the trial and appellate levels.

After leaving government service, Judge Schydlower practiced commercial litigation and medical malpractice defense at Kemp Smith, P.C. He later operated his own firm, where he handled Federal criminal defense cases and various business litigation matters. In 2015, Judge Schydlower was appointed to serve as a U.S. magistrate judge for the same district to which he is nominated. On the bench, he has issued more than 34,000 orders, reports and recommendations, opinions, and orders on motions.

The American Bar Association has unanimously rated Judge Schydlower "well qualified" to serve on the district court, and he has the strong support of his home State Senators, Mr. CORNYN and Mr. CRUZ.

Taken together, Schydlower's service to his country in the military and as a prosecutor, as well as his courtroom experience both on and off the bench, make him well-suited to serve on the Federal bench with distinction.

I urge my colleagues to support his nomination.

VOTE ON SCHYDLOWER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Schydlower nomination?

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 90, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 104 Ex.]

YEAS—90

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Ossoff |
| Barrasso | Graham | Padilla |
| Bennet | Grassley | Peters |
| Blackburn | Hagerty | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Hassan | Ricketts |
| Booker | Heinrich | Risch |
| Boozman | Hickenlooper | Romney |
| Brown | Hirono | Rosen |
| Budd | Hoeven | Rounds |
| Butler | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Cantwell | Johnson | Sanders |
| Capito | Kaine | Schatz |
| Cardin | Kelly | Schumer |
| Carper | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Casey | King | Shaheen |
| Cassidy | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Collins | Lankford | Smith |
| Coons | Lee | Stabenow |
| Cornyn | Luján | Tester |
| Cortez Masto | Lummis | Thune |
| Cotton | Manchin | Tillis |
| Cramer | Markey | Van Hollen |
| Crapo | McConnell | Warner |
| Cruz | Menendez | Warnock |
| Daines | Merkley | Warren |
| Duckworth | Moran | Welch |
| Durbin | Mullin | Whitehouse |
| Ernst | Murkowski | Wicker |
| Fetterman | Murphy | Wyden |
| Fischer | Murray | Young |

NAYS—8

| | | |
|----------|----------|------------|
| Britt | Paul | Tuberville |
| Hawley | Schmitt | Vance |
| Marshall | Sullivan | |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
|-------|------------|

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. Kaine assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. BOOKER assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. TESTER assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. REED assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate will resume legislative session.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

UDALL FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the only motions and amendments in order to the House message to accompany H.R. 2882 be the following: Paul motion to refer, which is at the desk; motion to concur with Cruz No. 1804; motion to concur with Tuberville No. 1781; motion to concur with Lee No. 1722; motion to concur with Schmitt No. 1795; motion to concur with Johnson No. 1706; motion to concur with Lankford No. 1713; motion to concur with Lankford No. 1718; Blackburn motion to refer, which is at the desk; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the above motions and amendments in the order listed; that upon the disposition of the Blackburn motion to refer, Senator BUDD be recognized to make a motion to table the motion to refer with amendment No. 1794, and if that motion is not agreed to, Senator HAGERTY be recognized to make a motion to table amendment No. 1793, and that if that motion is not agreed to, Senator BUDD be recognized to make a motion to table the motion to refer with amendment No. 1792; further, that if the tabling motions are not agreed to, the cloture motion with respect to the House message be withdrawn, the pending amendments and motions be withdrawn, and the Senate vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption of the motion to concur, without further intervening action or debate, and with 2 minutes for debate, equally divided, prior to each vote; further, that S. 4072, introduced earlier today, be placed on the calendar and, notwithstanding rule XXII, at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader but no later than Friday, April 19, 2024, the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 4072, Crapo tailpipe emissions; that there be up to 2 hours for debate, equally divided, and upon the use or yielding back of time, the bill be considered read a third time, and the Senate vote on passage of the bill with 60 affirmative votes required for passage, without intervening action or debate, and if passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I am going to be brief because we want to move quickly on to votes.

It has been a very long and difficult day, but we have just reached an agreement to complete the job of funding the government. It is good for the country that we have reached this bi-

partisan deal. It wasn't easy, but tonight our persistence has been worth it.

I want to thank the great leadership of Chair MURRAY and Vice Chair COLLINS for making this agreement possible.

Again, it is good for the American people that we have reached a bipartisan agreement to complete the job of funding the government tonight.

I am going to put us into a short quorum call as we wait for the first person of the first amendment to arrive. He is on his way. I will ask everyone to stay in their seats so we can get this done very quickly. Some people have very important places to go, and we want to get her there.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that all of the votes after the first vote be 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Again, I would ask Members respectfully but with strength to sit in their chairs, please, so we can get this done.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to modify the previous order so that the Lee motion to concur be first in the order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Utah.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1722

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1722.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Utah [Mr. LEE] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment with further amendment numbered 1722.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit Federal funding for the use of the CBP One application to facilitate the entry of aliens into the United States)

At the appropriate place in Division C, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this division may be made available to utilize the U.S. Customs and Border Protection CBP One application, or any successor application, to facilitate the entry of any alien into the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, when the rest of us board an airplane, we always

have to show a photo ID to prove who we are, that we are who we claim to be. Not so if you are an illegal immigrant.

If you are an illegal immigrant under the Biden administration, all you have to do is pull out the CBP One app. It is an app that they created. It doesn't prove who they are. It just says you can board the airplane. That is not OK, and that is not fair. In fact, just between January and September of last year, 221,000 illegal aliens entered the United States this way, and they were allowed to fly around the country without having ID.

This has had tragic consequences. An example of the danger presented by this is reflected in the fact that Haitian immigrant Cory Alvarez, whose entry into the United States was facilitated by the CBP One app, raped a 15-year-old, mentally impaired girl in the United States. He has, thankfully, since been arrested for this horrific crime. It should never have had to come to this. This would stop that from happening.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and end this lawlessness.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, the CBP One app is a downloadable app to schedule appointments with CBP at a land port of entry. Under our existing asylum laws, noncitizens may apply for asylum at our Nation's ports of entry.

Using this app improves security because it provides the CBP with advanced notice of who is arriving and of those individuals who have already passed security checks. About 1,400 appointments a day occur through the app. By providing people with advanced travel authorization, it allows them to avoid human traffickers and drug cartels and other criminal organizations.

Accepting this amendment will lead to more encounters at the border, pulling our agents from other work and responsibilities, like stopping drug cartels from getting fentanyl through our border, and it will create long lines at ports of entry as individuals travel to the border to apply for asylum, and it will all but guarantee a shutdown for no sensible reason.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON MOTION TO CONCUR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I call for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: The Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea".

The result was announced—yeas 45, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 105 Leg.]

YEAS—45

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Fischer | Murkowski |
| Blackburn | Graham | Paul |
| Boozman | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Britt | Hagerty | Risch |
| Budd | Hawley | Romney |
| Capito | Hoeven | Rounds |
| Cassidy | Hyde-Smith | Schmitt |
| Collins | Johnson | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Kennedy | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Lankford | Thune |
| Cramer | Lee | Tillis |
| Crapo | Lummis | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Vance |
| Daines | Moran | Wicker |
| Ernst | Mullin | Young |

NAYS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—4

| | | |
|----------|------------|--|
| Braun | Rubio | |
| Marshall | Scott (FL) | |

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Kentucky.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the next four amendments be considered simultaneously and individually; that each individual amendment be listed at the table by number; that over the next 15 minutes we will vote on all four. Each person who is for the amendment can speak a minute for it, and each person who is against it can speak a minute against it, as we have been doing. But four amendments will be considered over the next 15 minutes, individually, at the desk. Each Senator will come forward and vote on all four amendments one at a time, but we will be done with four amendments in 15 minutes. I ask unanimous consent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I object. Let me just say to my colleagues, accuracy is very important. We must make sure the vote count is accurate. But if we all sit in our seats and do 10-minute votes, we can get this done as quickly as possible.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

MOTION TO REFER

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I move to refer the message to accompany H.R. 2882 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] moves to refer the message with respect to

H.R. 2882 to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate with instructions to report the same back to the Senate in 1 day, not counting any day on which the Senate is not in session, with changes that reduce the total amount made available under the message by 5 percent, which shall not include the reduction of any amount made available to the Department of Defense or the reduction of any amount made available for securing the international border of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided.

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. I yield back my time.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, in that case, I will also yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has been yielded back.

VOTE ON MOTION TO REFER

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. PAUL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea".

The result was announced—yeas 34, nays 63, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 106 Leg.]

YEAS—34

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Fischer | Mullin |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Paul |
| Britt | Hagerty | Ricketts |
| Budd | Hawley | Risch |
| Cassidy | Hoeven | Rounds |
| Cornyn | Hyde-Smith | Schmitt |
| Cotton | Johnson | Scott (SC) |
| Cramer | Kennedy | Sullivan |
| Crapo | Lankford | Thune |
| Cruz | Lee | Warren |
| Daines | Lummis | Tuberville |
| Ernst | Marshall | |

NAYS—63

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Romney |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Boozman | Kelly | Schumer |
| Brown | King | Shaheen |
| Butler | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cantwell | Luján | Smith |
| Capito | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Cardin | Markey | Tester |
| Carper | McConnell | Tillis |
| Casey | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Collins | Merkley | Vance |
| Coons | Moran | Warner |
| Cortez Masto | Murkowski | Warnock |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warren |
| Durbin | Murray | Welch |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Whitehouse |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Wicker |
| Graham | Peters | Wyden |
| Hassan | Reed | Young |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|-------|-------|------------|
| Braun | Rubio | Scott (FL) |
|-------|-------|------------|

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, we are going to try to skip the recap. That will save a lot of time. But that means everyone has to be in his or her seat. Don't go to the front and answer. Just be in your seat and answer yes or no when called.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1804

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882, with further amendment No. 1804.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CRUZ] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882, with further amendment numbered 1804.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of funds to waive certain sanctions with respect to Iran)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended to make a determination or issue a waiver pursuant to—

(1) section 1245(d)(5) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a(d)(5)); or

(2) section 1244(i) or 1247(f) of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8803(i) and 8806(f)).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will be 2 minutes of debate on this motion, equally divided.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, right now, Israel is facing the worst war in the Middle East in 50 years. On October 7, more than 1,200 Israelis were murdered by Hamas terrorists; more than 30 Americans were murdered by Hamas terrorists.

Hamas was funded by Iran. Hezbollah is funded by Iran. In the last 3 years, the Biden administration has flowed more than \$100 billion to Iran, has sent the money that paid for the Hamas terrorists that committed those acts of atrocities.

This amendment is very simple: It prohibits the Biden administration from sending billions of dollars to Iran. The ayatollah pledges death to America and death to Israel.

The question is: Does the United States of America want to be responsible for funding the genocidal, theocratic lunatic who leads Iran, who is funding Hamas, who is waging war against Israel?

The Democrats are going to move to table. And so a vote for yes is a vote to fund Iran. A vote for no is to say: Not one more penny should go to the lunatics in Iran.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to this motion. It does not do what the Senator from Texas says.

Our sanctions are critical national security tools. The U.S. Iranian sanc-

tions are the strongest economic sanctions in the world. The Cruz amendment would eliminate the waiver that is available for national security interests.

This provision would effectively limit the use of the waiver in any instances of which has met the significant threshold; for example, use for accommodating humanitarian or basic human needs, including food and medicine and to pay for vetted third-party, non-Iranian vendors. It would also impair our ability to maintain the international coalition and support of our sanctions against Iran.

MOTION TO TABLE

And for all those reasons, I move to table the motion to concur with the Cruz amendment No. 1804 and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to table.

Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "NAY".

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 107 Leg.]

YEAS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Merkley | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Murphy | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murray | Warnock |
| Durbin | Ossoff | Warren |
| Fetterman | Padilla | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Paul | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NAYS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Graham | Murkowski |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Risch |
| Britt | Hawley | Romney |
| Budd | Hoover | Rounds |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Collins | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Lee | Thune |
| Cramer | Lummis | Tillis |
| Crapo | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Vance |
| Daines | Menendez | Wicker |
| Ernst | Moran | Young |
| Fischer | Mullin | |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
|-------|------------|

The motion to table was agreed to.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1781

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with a further amendment No. 1781.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alabama [Mr. TUBERVILLE] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment with a further amendment numbered 1781.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit funding for entities that permit certain students to participate in girls' or women's athletics)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITION ON FUNDING ENTITIES THAT PERMIT CERTAIN STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN GIRLS' OR WOMEN'S ATHLETICS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated under any division of this Act may be used by a State, local educational agency, or institution of higher education, that permits any student whose biological sex (recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology at birth) is male to participate in an athletic program or activity designated for girls or women.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given the term in section 101 or 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001, 1002).

(2) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY, STATE.—The terms "local educational agency" and "State" have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will be 2 minutes of debate on this motion, equally divided.

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I still can't believe we are having serious conversations about men competing in women's sports. We have lost our minds. I know many of you have daughters, nieces, and granddaughters who play sports. My amendment would protect the integrity of women and girls in sports and protect them and sports itself, because women and girls are being discriminated against.

I am here to fight for the future of women's and girls' sports, for the safety of their locker rooms and showers. The Biden Department of Education is doing exactly the opposite.

My amendment is simple. A school should protect women in sports and ensure that only biological women can compete against each other. An educational institution should not be able to use Federal funds to implement a radical agenda and facilitate biological males competing in women sports.

It is time to draw the line in the sand. Women are being attacked, not just on the court, in the pool, but in the dressing room. It is time to show what side you are on. So when you vote, I hope you take a look in the camera and smile, and go home and explain your vote to the daughters and granddaughters and young women in your families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, this amendment would create an outright blanket ban on trans kids in K-12

schools participating in any sport activity consistent with their gender identity in every single State.

Let me just say this loud and clear: This amendment is as bigoted and dangerous as it is unnecessary. Of all the challenges facing our Nation, I am stunned this is how any Senator would ask this institution to spend its time.

Trans kids deserve to be kids. They deserve to play sports, go to school, be with their friends. They should not have to worry about hateful rhetoric and laws that attack their very existence, and they definitely shouldn't live in fear of a Congress that is going to stipulate that their school won't get any Federal funding if their coach just simply lets them play sports with their friends.

That is nothing to say that passing any amendment on this bill will guarantee a government shutdown.

I urge my colleagues—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time expired.

Mrs. MURRAY.—to vote yes on the motion to table.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mrs. MURRAY. I move to table the motion to concur with the Tuberville amendment No. 1781.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "NAY."

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Leg.]

YEAS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Sháheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NAYS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Barrasso | Cruz | Lankford |
| Blackburn | Daines | Lee |
| Boozman | Ernst | Lummis |
| Britt | Fischer | Marshall |
| Budd | Graham | McConnell |
| Capito | Grassley | Moran |
| Cassidy | Hagerty | Mullin |
| Collins | Hawley | Murkowski |
| Cornyn | Hoeven | Paul |
| Cotton | Hyde-Smith | Ricketts |
| Cramer | Johnson | Risch |
| Crapo | Kennedy | Romney |

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| Rounds | Sullivan | Vance |
| Rubio | Thune | Wicker |
| Schmitt | Tillis | Young |
| Scott (SC) | Tuberville | |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
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The motion to table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1795

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1795.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Missouri [Mr. SCHMITT] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment numbered 1795.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of funds to label speech as disinformation or misinformation or to coerce online platforms to alter, remove, restrict, or suppress speech)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used—

(1) by an employee acting under the official authority of the Federal Government to create a list or database with the purpose of gathering and labeling any speech of a United States citizen as disinformation or misinformation;

(2) to provide or transmit a list or database described in paragraph (1) or a single item of speech to any provider or operator of a covered platform in order to alter, remove, restrict, or suppress speech of a United States citizen that is shared on the covered platform based on a determination, by an employee acting under the official authority of the Federal Government, that the views of the speech in the list, database, or item are disinformation or misinformation; or

(3) to create, or provide funding to a foreign government, quasi-governmental organization, or nonprofit organization for the research, development, or maintenance of, any disinformation or misinformation list or ranking system relating to news content, regardless of medium.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "covered platform" means an interactive computer service, as that term is defined in section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will be 2 minutes of debate on this motion, equally divided.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, Jefferson Smith, the newly minted Senator in Frank Capra's "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," opined:

"Liberty's too precious a thing to be buried in books. Men should hold it up in front of them every single day of their lives and say: I'm free to think and to speak. My ancestors couldn't, I can, and my children will."

My amendment tackles a fundamental issue that should bring us together as a Senate: protecting Americans' First Amendment rights in the virtual town square.

The First Amendment is the beating heart of our Constitution. It protects fundamental human expression, and

the government shouldn't be deciding what we can read or what we can hear or what we can say.

Earlier this week, Murphy v. Murray was heard in the U.S. Supreme Court. I filed that case when I was attorney general of Missouri. At issue in that case is what is at the heart of the issue here in this amendment, which is pretty simple: Should the Federal Government and its Leviathan of Agencies be allowed to coerce and collude with social media companies to censor speech online? The answer for every American should be a resounding no. Unfortunately, that is what top officials in the Biden administration were doing and why this amendment is so important.

What is more, censorship isn't limited to just conservative-leaning speech.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time is expired.

Mr. SCHMITT. This affects everyone, all ideologies. This should bring us together. This would protect Americans' free speech. I urge this body to support it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. When we are giving speeches about our concern of the impact of disinformation and misinformation on America, this is exactly the wrong amendment.

We know the Russians, the Chinese, and God knows who else are using information and twisting information and delivering it to our neighbors as the truth, and how are they supposed to know any better? This amendment will basically remove the authority of the U.S. Government to speak up about misinformation and disinformation.

If you want our citizenry to be more vulnerable, vote yes on this amendment. If you want to make sure we are doing everything in our power to stop Vladimir Putin and others from infiltrating America, vote no on this amendment.

VOTE ON MOTION TO CONCUR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. SCHMITT. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea".

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 109 Leg.]

YEAS—47

| | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| Barrasso | Cassidy | Cruz |
| Blackburn | Collins | Daines |
| Boozman | Cornyn | Ernst |
| Britt | Cotton | Fischer |
| Budd | Cramer | Graham |
| Capito | Crapo | Grassley |

| | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| Hagerty | McConnell | Schmitt |
| Hawley | Moran | Scott (SC) |
| Hooven | Mullin | Sullivan |
| Hyde-Smith | Murkowski | Thune |
| Johnson | Paul | Tillis |
| Kennedy | Ricketts | Tuberville |
| Lankford | Risch | Vance |
| Lee | Romney | Wicker |
| Lummis | Rounds | Young |
| Marshall | Rubio | |

NAYS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—2

Braun Scott (FL)

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1706

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1706.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. JOHNSON] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment numbered 1706.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the disbursement of certain Federal funding to local jurisdictions that refuse to provide advance notice to the Department of Homeland Security regarding the release of illegal aliens from local custody)

At the appropriate place in division D, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this division may be used to provide Federal funds to a local jurisdiction that refuses to comply with a request from the Department of Homeland Security to provide advance notice of the scheduled date and time a particular illegal alien is scheduled to be released from local custody.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are two minutes equally divided.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, in the last 4 months, we have seen a string of horrific crimes in which the suspects are illegal immigrants.

In December, a 16-year-old cheerleader was stabbed to death in Edna, TX. In my State, a 20-year-old nurse was run down by a drunk driver. In January, again in my State, a Special Olympian was struck by a drunk driver. In Campbell County, VA, a 14-year-old girl was sexually assaulted. In January, a 2-year-old was caught in the crossfire of gangs and murdered. In Kenner, LA, a 14-year-old girl was raped by another individual and stabbed by an illegal suspect. On February 22, Laken Riley was beaten to death while jogging in Athens, GA.

Just last week, a 15-year-old mentally impaired girl was raped in Massachusetts.

This must stop.

My amendment is simple. It prohibits Labor, HHS, and Education funding from going to sanctuary cities that do not comply with requests from DHS to provide advance notice of date and time illegal aliens are scheduled to be released from local custody.

We can stop these crimes. We must secure our border. Please vote yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, this is a perfect example of an amendment that does not deserve to be debated without real work and real bipartisan commitment.

This is a legitimate issue, making sure that we have notice when you have an individual in State or local custody, but this version of the amendment doesn't work. It likely violates the 10th Amendment. It likely violates the Fourth Amendment. It fundamentally misunderstands the statute it implicates—8 USC 1373.

There is a better way to do this in a bipartisan manner. In fact, a number of us just recently introduced legislation that would allow ICE to obtain a legal warrant when you have an individual in State or local custody to make sure that they end up being put into removal proceedings.

So let's continue to work on this very important issue. This is just the wrong way to do it, likely deeply unconstitutional.

MOTION TO TABLE

For that reason, I would move to table the motion to concur with Johnson amendment No. 1706.

I would ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to table.

Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted “NAY.”

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 110 Leg.]

YEAS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Murray |
| Bennet | Hassan | Ossoff |
| Blumenthal | Heinrich | Padilla |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Peters |
| Brown | Hirono | Reed |
| Butler | Kaine | Rosen |
| Cantwell | Kelly | Sanders |
| Cardin | King | Schatz |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Schumer |
| Casey | Luján | Shaheen |
| Coons | Manchin | Sinema |
| Cortez Masto | Markey | Smith |
| Duckworth | Menendez | Stabenow |
| Durbin | Merkley | Tester |
| Fetterman | Murphy | Van Hollen |

Warner
WarnockWarren
WelchWhitehouse
Wyden

NAYS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Graham | Paul |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Risch |
| Britt | Hawley | Romney |
| Budd | Hooven | Rounds |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Collins | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Lee | Thune |
| Cramer | Lummis | Tillis |
| Crapo | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Vance |
| Daines | Moran | Wade |
| Ernst | Mullin | Wicker |
| Fischer | Murkowski | Young |

NOT VOTING—2

Braun Scott (FL)

The motion to table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1713

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1713.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. LANKFORD] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1713.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of funds for the Women and Infants Hospital, Rhode Island)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of any division of this consolidated Act, including the explanatory statement described in section 4 of the matter preceding division A of this Act and any Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending table, no amounts shall be made available under division D of this Act for the Women and Infants Hospital, Rhode Island, for facilities and equipment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We have 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support my amendment that would strike earmark funding for a hospital that performs chemical and surgical abortions, including well into the fifth month of pregnancy. In fact, this hospital, on their website, they brag that they routinely provide abortions up to 22 weeks. Five and a half months into a pregnancy is a late-term abortion. This is beyond even the Roe standard of viability.

At 22 weeks—that is 5½ months—a baby at that point can certainly feel pain. A baby can smile. They have formed tear ducts. They can recognize their mom's voice. They are sensitive to loud voices. They even have their taste buds already formed at that point.

Portugal restricts abortions after 10 weeks. Austria, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, and Ukraine all restrict abortion after 12 weeks. Belgium, Luxembourg, and Spain restrict after 14.

This is a hospital bragging they do abortions at 22 weeks. We may disagree

on when life begins, but we should not provide Federal dollars for a facility that advertises it performs late-term abortions routinely. We should strike this earmark.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, this amendment would strike funding to help Women & Infants Hospital, in Providence, RI, build a new midwifery unit in order to help ensure babies can safely enter the world and that their moms can have a safe and positive childbirth experience.

Some Members are insinuating that this is about abortion. No funds will be used for abortions. In fact, these funds will truly have a clear and direct benefit for arriving babies and moms.

And I would urge defeat of the amendment.

I yield my remaining time to Senator WHITEHOUSE.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the actual text of the application for this earmark says it is to develop a nationally accredited in-hospital birth center, a midwifery unit; to provide healthy birthing individuals the choice to give birth in protected, dedicated space for normal physiologic birth; reduce the risks and costs of instrumental births and surgical delivery; and reduce hospital length of stay, thereby reducing healthcare costs—also training midwives. It is one thing to be anti-abortion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. We are not anti-midwifery, and I urge that we oppose the Senator's amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1718

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1718.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. LANKFORD] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2882 with further amendment No. 1718.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit funding for the release of special interest aliens from Federal custody during such aliens' proceedings under the Immigration and Nationality Act)

At the appropriate place in division C, insert the following:

SEC. _____. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to release from physical custody any alien whom the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection has determined potentially poses a national security risk to the United States or its interests (commonly referred to as a "special interest alien") during the pendency of proceedings for such alien under the Immigration and

Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), including any related appeals.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We have 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, yesterday, 5,770 people illegally crossed our southern border. Some of them were identified as special interest aliens.

Now let me give the definition for "special interest aliens" from the Department of Homeland Security. This is a non-U.S. person who, based on analysis of travel patterns, potentially poses a national security risk to the United States or its interests. Often, such individuals or groups are employing travel patterns known or evaluated to possibly have a nexus to terrorism. That is what these individuals are. They have been identified by this administration's DHS as a potential national security risk and a possible nexus to terrorism.

The problem is most of them are released into the United States after a very quick screening at the border. Those individuals that have been labeled a national security risk are not being detained at our border. This amendment would simply say: If an individual has been identified by this administration as a national security risk, they have to be detained.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time is expired.

Mr. LANKFORD.—throughout the time they are evaluated until they are adjudicated.

I would ask for a "yes" vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, it has been deeply uncomfortable to be in such regular agreement with Senator LANKFORD on immigration policy. So it feels good to be back disagreeing with him.

This amendment is a bad idea for three reasons. One, it shuts down the government if it passes. Second, it is overly broad. What this really amounts to is a ban on individuals from certain country—countries that tend to be Muslim countries—coming to the United States. But third and most important, it is unnecessary. It is duplicative. The Department of Homeland Security already has the power to deny entry to the country to anyone who is a public safety threat or a national security concern.

And so for those three reasons, I would urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

MOTION TO REFER

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I move to refer the message to accompany H.R. 2882 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Tennessee [Mrs. BLACKBURN] moves to refer the message with respect to H.R. 2882 to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate with instructions to report the same back to the Senate in 1 day, not counting any day on which the Senate is not in session, with an amendment consisting of the text of S. 3881, as introduced in the Senate on March 6, 2024.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. You have 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, let me tell you why my colleagues are going to vote no when we voice vote this in a few minutes. This is a concept that has been around for a while, and it is in legislation called the CLEAR Act. What this would simply do is say that our local and State law enforcement, when they apprehend a criminal illegal alien in this country, that they can detain that individual and require ICE to, within 48 hours, come to them to deport that individual.

They also would be required to reimburse that entity for the expenses, and then they would also prohibit funds going to cities that do not comply with Federal immigration law.

The fact that we have Americans losing their lives—Pierce Corcoran from Tennessee, Laken Riley, whom we have all talked about—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mrs. BLACKBURN.—because of criminal illegal aliens is the reason to vote yes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, this motion would impose exactly the sort of poison pill rider we all worked very hard to keep out of this important bipartisan package, and it is worth stating once more that there was a bipartisan proposal on border policy changes just a few weeks ago. Republicans walked away from that issue just as soon as Donald Trump told them to.

And, now, here we are tonight, facing a serious, prolonged shutdown. Some are pressing for measures like this even when they know full well they are putting forward partisan policies we worked very hard to keep out of this bill. And there is no way to support this motion now without forcing a pointless government shutdown—none.

If Republicans want to show that they are serious, they can work with us on comprehensive immigration reform and real solutions to the challenges we are facing at the border.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion is not agreed to.

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

MOTION TO TABLE AMENDMENT NO. 1794

Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I move to table Senate amendment 1794 for the

purpose of offering my amendment No. 1807.

I would like 2 minutes of debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, we are in the middle of the worst border crisis in American history as a direct result of the failed policies of President Biden.

My amendments are meant to address these failed policies. The amendment I am offering prevents illegal aliens who commit the crime of assaulting a law enforcement officer from ever obtaining legal status or citizenship.

This is particularly relevant to my home State of North Carolina in light of the murder of Lake County Deputy Sheriff Ned Byrd by an illegal alien in 2022.

Any Senator who claims to support the police should have no problem supporting this amendment. So before you shut down this amendment, just ask yourself: Do you believe that someone who beats up a cop and is here illegally should be allowed to legally remain in our country? I don't think so, and I hope that all of my colleagues would agree.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, we have a bipartisan, bicameral package of funding bills before us, and right now our job is to pass this as soon as possible. We cannot delay a moment further, and that is what this motion would do—needlessly drag this out even longer for absolutely no good reason at all.

It is already well past midnight. Let us finish this job, pass our bills. I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON MOTION TO TABLE

The question is on agreeing to the motion to table amendment No. 1794.

Mr. BUDD. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 111 Leg.]

YEAS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Barrasso | Crapo | Johnson |
| Blackburn | Cruz | Kennedy |
| Boozman | Daines | Lankford |
| Britt | Ernst | Lee |
| Budd | Fischer | Lummis |
| Capito | Graham | Marshall |
| Cassidy | Grassley | McConnell |
| Collins | Hagerty | Moran |
| Cornyn | Hawley | Mullin |
| Cotton | Hoeven | Murkowski |
| Cramer | Hyde-Smith | Paul |

| | | |
|----------|------------|------------|
| Ricketts | Schmitt | Tuberville |
| Risch | Scott (SC) | Vance |
| Romney | Sullivan | Wicker |
| Rounds | Thune | Young |
| Rubio | Tillis | |

NAYS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—2

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| Braun | Scott (FL) |
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The motion to table was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

MOTION TO TABLE AMENDMENT NO. 1793

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, in order to consider my very simple and reasonable amendment, it is vital that the Senate must move the Democratic leader's blocking amendment out of the way in order to move forward with mine.

Let me cut through the procedural language here. I am bringing forward a vote on a very simple question: Do you support American taxpayer dollars being used to fly illegal immigrants from countries like Venezuela and Haiti into America to be settled in cities and towns near you?

If so, then vote against it. Vote no to preserve this practice of using taxpayer dollars to charter planes that move and import thousands of illegal aliens into your States.

Make no mistake here, President Biden has been secretly flying hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens from foreign countries into blue city airports. Just last year alone, in 2023, it was reported that some 320,000 illegal aliens had been flown in using this method. Americans are shocked that this is happening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senator, your time has expired.

Does the Senator have a motion?

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Exactly like the previous vote, this is a procedural vote that will cause a shutdown. I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

VOTE ON MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. HAGERTY. I move to table Senate amendment No. 1793 for the purpose of offering my amendment No. 1808, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 112 Leg.]

YEAS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Graham | Paul |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Risch |
| Britt | Hawley | Romney |
| Budd | Hoeven | Rounds |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Collins | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Cotton | Thune |
| Cramer | Lummis | Tillis |
| Crapo | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Vance |
| Daines | Moran | Wicker |
| Ernst | Mullin | Young |
| Fischer | Murkowski | |

NAYS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Peters | Wyden |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
|-------|------------|

The motion to table was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, let me be clear. The amendment I am offering prevents illegal aliens who commit the crime of burglary, theft, or shoplifting from being granted legal status or citizenship.

This is particularly relevant in the case of Laken Riley, where the illegal alien who murdered her had previously been arrested for those crimes.

The American people need to know who stands on the side of preventing tragedies and who will enable them. Now, I know my Democratic colleagues are fearful, perhaps squeamish, to prevent immigration issues from being voted on tonight. We have even gone into past midnight and into a brief government shutdown to avoid it.

I might be a freshman in this Chamber, but I have been here long enough to know that deadlines are powerful motivators but so should be common sense and common decency.

Look, we have seen the cost of not dealing with this issue in the tragic death of Laken Riley, and I hope each and every one of my colleagues would agree it is time to act and support my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Like the previous votes, this is procedural vote that will cause a shutdown. I urge a “no” vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

VOTE ON MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. BUDD. I move to table Senate amendment No. 1792 for the purpose of offering my amendment No. 1740, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted “yea”.

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 113 Leg.]

YEAS—47

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Graham | Paul |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Risch |
| Britt | Hawley | Romney |
| Budd | Hoeven | Rounds |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Collins | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Lee | Thune |
| Cramer | Lummis | Tillis |
| Crapo | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Vance |
| Daines | Moran | Wicker |
| Ernst | Mulin | Young |
| Fischer | Murkowski | |

NAYS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Reed |
| Bennet | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Sanders |
| Booker | Kaine | Schatz |
| Brown | Kelly | Schumer |
| Butler | King | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cardin | Luján | Smith |
| Carper | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Casey | Markey | Tester |
| Coons | Menendez | Tillis |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Van Hollen |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warner |
| Durbin | Murray | Warnock |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Warren |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Welch |
| Hassan | Peters | Whitehouse |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
|-------|------------|

The motion to the table was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, could everyone please stay in their seats until we complete this vote? That way, we can get it done most quickly. Thank you. This is the final passage.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, it has been a long road, but we are about to vote on a bipartisan funding bill that the House passed overwhelmingly, and we are finally ready to close the book on fiscal year 2024.

This is not the legislation the Democrats and Republicans would have writ-

ten on our own. It is the result of tough negotiations. It is a bipartisan package that invests in families and our country's future.

I want to thank Vice Chair COLLINS and so many others for working with us to get this done.

This was not easy, but we all know how important the investments are that this bill makes in our country. It matters. So I hope all of our colleagues will join us now in voting to send these bipartisan bills to the President's desk. We don't have a minute to spare.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, it has been a long night and a long process, but we are on the verge of clearing the final six appropriations bills for this fiscal year, and that is an important milestone.

I want to thank Chair MURRAY, the members of the Appropriations Committee, and everyone who worked so constructively tonight, and I would be remiss if I did not thank our hard-working staff.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it has been a long day, a long week, and a very long few months, but, tonight, we have funded the government with significant investments for parents and kids, small businesses and healthcare workers, military families and so much more. It is no small feat to get a package like this done in divided government. These past few months have shown yet again that when bipartisanship has room to work, we can get the job done.

A deep and sincere thank you to all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their good work. I thank Chair MURRAY, Vice Chair COLLINS, and all on Appropriations and their staffs. Thank you to my incredible staff too.

This was not easy, but our efforts have paid off with a strong funding bill that now goes to the President.

REMEMBERING PATRICIA COLLINS

Finally, Mr. President, many of us have signed a condolence book to Senator COLLINS on the loss of her mother. It was even more difficult for her to get this bill done given the circumstances, but she showed her usual strength, courage, and tenacity.

So I would like to just ask for a couple of seconds of silence for Susan's mother, and I will present this book to her.

(Moment of silence.)

VOTE ON MOTION TO CONCUR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the cloture motion is withdrawn, and the motion to refer and the motion to concur with amendment No. 1790 and the amendments pending thereto are withdrawn.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested.

Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted “nay”.

The result was announced—yeas 74, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 114 Leg.]

YEAS—74

| | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Graham | Peters |
| Blumenthal | Grassley | Reed |
| Booker | Hassan | Romney |
| Boozman | Heinrich | Rosen |
| Britt | Hickenlooper | Rounds |
| Brown | Hirono | Schatz |
| Butler | Hoover | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Hyde-Smith | Shaheen |
| Capito | Kaine | Sinema |
| Cardin | Kelly | Smith |
| Carper | King | Stabenow |
| Casey | Klobuchar | Sullivan |
| Cassidy | Luján | Tester |
| Collins | Manchin | Thune |
| Coons | Markey | Tillis |
| Cornyn | McConnell | Van Hollen |
| Cotton | Menendez | Warner |
| Cramer | Merkley | Warnock |
| Crapo | Moran | Warren |
| Cruz | Mullin | Welch |
| Daines | Murkowski | Whitehouse |
| Ernst | Murphy | Wicker |
| Fetterman | Murray | Wyden |
| Fischer | Ossoff | |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Young |
| Hassan | Paul | |

NAYS—24

| | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| Barrasso | Hawley | Ricketts |
| Bennet | Johnson | Risch |
| Blackburn | Kennedy | Rubio |
| Budd | Lankford | Sanders |
| Crapo | Lee | Schmitt |
| Cruz | Lummis | Scott (SC) |
| Daines | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Hassan | Paul | Vance |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|-------|------------|
| Braun | Scott (FL) |
|-------|------------|

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 74, the nays are 24.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this motion, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, there were a lot of naysayers who didn't believe that this divided Congress could pass full-year appropriations bills. Tonight, we proved them wrong. We have finally passed all 12 bills to fund the government, and I am proud to be sending a \$1 billion increase in funding to childcare and pre-K to the President's desk.

As chair of the Appropriations Committee, you have a responsibility: You help decide in a big way how to set the Nation's spending priorities. I wanted to write our bills to put working people—the parents I talk to all around my State who can't afford or find childcare—first.

I remember when I drove 100 miles to Olympia, our State capital, with my two young kids to try and save their preschool program, and a State lawmaker told me I couldn't make a difference; I was just a mom in tennis

shoes. Well, this mom in tennis shoes is now the Senate Appropriations chair. I think it makes a difference when you have a former preschool teacher and someone who lived what it means to be a working mom with young kids holding the pen in our Nation's spending bills. So I decided childcare had to be at the top of our country's priorities, and this time it was not going to get knocked off.

I am so glad we are making this investment in our kids, in our families, and in our economy. But this bill delivers a lot more. President Biden will be signing a bipartisan bill that delivers on the investments that matter most in people's daily lives—on everything from Pell grants to community health centers—this funding, free of the devastating cuts and extreme riders that was pushed by the House Republicans that would have sent our country back decades.

From day one of this process, I said there would be no extreme far-right riders to restrict women's reproductive freedoms in these funding bills—not small, not big; none. And there are none.

Democrats stood firm to protect a woman's right to choose in these negotiations, beating back countless far-right policies from House Republicans to ban abortion and attack reproductive freedom in every way possible.

These bills came about after some tough negotiations, but they will move our country forward.

I have to, once again, thank my vice chair SUSAN COLLINS for her partnership. We passed 12 bills with overwhelming bipartisan support last summer, and that was important. I think that bipartisanship and shared commitment to doing what was right for the country served us well in negotiating these final spending bills.

I hope my House Republican colleagues now understand that bipartisanship is the only path forward in a divided government. I hope they understand that when you strike a deal, you have to stick to it. It has to mean something. And I hope my House Republican colleagues will now continue to work with us, not against us, to deliver for the American people.

As Appropriations chair, I am so glad to finally close the book on this year's government funding. I am ready as ever to work with all of my colleagues as we determine what investments our country will make. Let's keep working to help people and solve problems.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2882

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 100, which was re-

ceived from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 100) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2882.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mrs. MURRAY. I further ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 100) was agreed to.

Mrs. MURRAY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 534.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Susan M. Bazis, of Nebraska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 534, Susan M. Bazis, of Nebraska, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, Laphonza Butler, Richard Blumenthal, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Sheldon Whitehouse, Gary C. Peters, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Duckworth, Tina Smith, Chris Van Hollen.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 542.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert J. White, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 542, Robert J. White, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Raphael G. Warnock, Gary C. Peters, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Jack Reed, Sheldon Whitehouse, Peter Welch, Mark R. Warner, Christopher A. Coons, Tammy Duckworth, Benjamin L. Cardin, Debbie Stabenow.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 535.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ann Marie McIff Allen, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 535, Ann Marie McIff Allen, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, Laphonza Butler, Richard Blumenthal, Alex Padilla, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Sheldon Whitehouse, Gary C. Peters, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jeanne Shaheen, Tammy Duckworth, Tina Smith, Chris Van Hollen.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, March 23, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 553 through 568 and all the nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

to be Rear Admiral (lower half)

Capt. Tuan Nguyen

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

to be Rear Admiral (lower half)

Capt. Douglas J. Adams

Capt. Daniel W. Ettlich

Capt. Todd M. Evans

Capt. Peter D. Small

AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

to be Major General

Brig. Gen. Paul R. Fast

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

to be Major General

Brig. Gen. AnnMarie K. Anthony

The following named officer for appointment as Chief of Chaplains for the Air Force and the Space Force and appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while so serving in that position under title 10, U.S.C., section 9039.

to be Major General

Brig. Gen. Trent C. Davis

ARMY

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

to be Major General

Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Ricciardi

to be Brigadier General

Col. Louisa R. Bargeron

Col. Charles R. Bell

NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

to be Rear Admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Dion D. English

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

to be Rear Admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Susan BryerJoyner

Rear Adm. (lh) Ralph R. Smith, III

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

to be Rear Admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Elizabeth S. Okano

Rear Adm. (lh) Kurt J. Rothenhaus

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be Rear Admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Mark D. Behning

Rear Adm. (lh) Thomas R. Buchanan

Rear Adm. (lh) Christopher J. Cavanaugh

Rear Adm. (lh) Jennifer S. Couture

Rear Adm. (lh) William R. Daly

Rear Adm. (lh) Erik J. Eslich

Rear Adm. (lh) Ronald A. Foy

Rear Adm. (lh) Patrick J. Hannifin

Rear Adm. (lh) Gregory C. Huffman

Rear Adm. (lh) Kevin P. Lenox

Rear Adm. (lh) Oliver T. Lewis

Rear Adm. (lh) Marc J. Miguez

Rear Adm. (lh) Benjamin R. Nicholson

Rear Adm. (lh) Carlos A. Sardiello

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be Brigadier General

Col. Todd D. Miller

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be Brigadier General

Col. David W. Kelley

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be Brigadier General

Col. Ronnie D. Anderson, Jr.

Col. Bryan L. Babich

Col. Jeremy A. Bartel

Col. James T. Blejski, Jr.

Col. W.M. Bochat

Col. Robert G. Born

Col. Kirk E. Brinker

Col. Robert S. Brown

Col. Kevin S. Chaney

Col. Kenneth C. Cole

Col. Kevin L. Cotman

Col. Johnaton L. Dawber

Col. David P. Elsen

Col. Joseph M. Ewers

Col. Eugene J. Ferris

Col. Ronald L. Franklin, Jr.

Col. Rogelio J. Garcia

Col. Peter C. Glass

Col. Joseph C. Goetz, II

Col. Phillip J. Kiniry, III

Col. Paul T. Krattiger

Col. John P. Kunstbeck

Col. Matthew J. Lennox

Col. Robert J. Mikesh, Jr.

Col. Zachary L. Miller

Col. Jin H. Pak

Col. William M. Parker

Col. Allen J. Pepper

Col. Brendan C. Raymond

Col. Adam D. Smith

Col. Terry R. Tillis

Col. George C. Turner, Jr.

Col. Shane M. Upton

Col. Eric J. Vandenbosch

Col. Jason T. Williams

Col. Kevin J. Williams

The following named officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be Brigadier General

Col. Charles M. Causey

Col. Roderick F. Laughman

Col. Urbi N. Lewis

AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be Lieutenant General

Maj. Gen. Derek C. France

MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be Lieutenant General

Maj. Gen. Eric E. Austin

ARMY

PN1083 ARMY nominations (30) beginning BENJAMIN J. ALLISON, and ending PATRICK R. WIGGINS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 19, 2023.

PN1084 ARMY nominations (463) beginning LLOYD G. ABIGANIA, and ending 0002926605, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 19, 2023.

PN1085 ARMY nominations (959) beginning BRENNAN R. ABRAHAMSON, and ending 0002325489, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 19, 2023.

PN1086 ARMY nominations (959) beginning JEREL Q. ABAS, and ending 0002765821, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 19, 2023.

PN1174 ARMY nomination of Andrew C. Oddo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 4, 2023.

PN1175 ARMY nomination of Andrew J. Acosta, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 4, 2023.

PN1191 ARMY nomination of Colby S. Miller, which was received by the Senate and

appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2023.

PN1192 ARMY nomination of Seth M. Williams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2023.

PN1193 ARMY nomination of Aaron R. Monkman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2023.

PN1388 ARMY nomination of Joseph R. Cotton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 25, 2024.

PN1389 ARMY nomination of Juan C. Gongora, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 25, 2024.

PN1478 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW A. DUGARD, and ending JAMES R. JOHNSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1479 ARMY nomination of Arnold J. Steinlage, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1480 ARMY nomination of Arlene Johnson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1481 ARMY nomination of Darim C. Nessler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1482 ARMY nomination of Brandi N. Hicks, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1483 ARMY nominations (6) beginning NATHAN A. BENNINGTON, and ending ANDREW S. WAGNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1484 ARMY nomination of Sandeep R. N. Rahangdale, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1485 ARMY nomination of Wendi J. Dick, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

MARINE CORPS

PN1486 MARINE CORPS nomination of Benjamin J. Grass, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1487 MARINE CORP nomination of Thomas C. Farrington, II, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1488 MARINE CORPS nomination of Yuliya Omarov, which was received by the

Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

NAVY

PN1283 NAVY nomination of Megan M. Grubbs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 8, 2024.

PN1324 NAVY nomination of John O. Wilson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 10, 2024.

PN1490 NAVY nomination of Brackery L. Battle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1491 NAVY nominations (3) beginning DANIEL J. BALDOR, and ending MATTHEW A. WAGNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1492 NAVY nomination of William J. Roy, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1493 NAVY nomination of Colette B. Lazenka, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

PN1494 NAVY nomination of Nikolaos Sidiropoulos, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 29, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the Senate will soon consider H.R. 2882, the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024. The legislation contains funding eligible for allocation adjustments including appropriations designated as emergency funding. Today, I am adjusting the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations,

colloquially known as the 302(a), consistent with those appropriations.

Section 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act allows the chairman of the Budget Committee to revise budget allocations, aggregates, and levels consistent with pending legislation. This bill contains \$2.5 billion of emergency-designated discretionary funding, a decrease from the \$20 billion that was contained in the versions of this bill originally reported out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Together with the \$10 billion of emergency funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 that was enacted earlier this month, these bills comply with the January agreement between the Senate majority leader and the Speaker of the House.

Division G of the bill contains several authorizing provisions, such as a further extension of the nuclear reactor liability policy known as the Price-Anderson Act and as called for by my nuclear bill, the ADVANCE Act, that are paid for over 10 years.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REVISIONS TO BUDGET AGGREGATES—BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(Pursuant to Section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)
(\$ in billions)

| | 2024 |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Current Spending Aggregates: | |
| Budget Authority | 5,053.725 |
| Outlays | 5,104.061 |
| Adjustment: | |
| Budget Authority | -17.550 |
| Outlays | -6.698 |
| Revised Aggregates: | |
| Budget Authority | 5,036.175 |
| Outlays | 5,097.363 |

REVISIONS TO THE ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

(Pursuant to Section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)
(\$ in billions)

| | Current Allocation | Adjustments | Revised Allocation |
|--|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Revised Security Budget Authority | 961.841 | -8,000 | 953.841 |
| Revised Nonsecurity Budget Authority | 795,054 | -9,550 | 785,504 |
| General Purpose Outlays | 1,854,475 | -6,698 | 1,847,777 |

DETAIL OF ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)
(\$ in billions)

| | Detail of Adjustments Made Above | Emergency | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|
| | | Security | Nonsecurity | Total |
| Defense: | | | | |
| Budget Authority | | -8,000 | 0,000 | -8,000 |
| Outlays | | -2,209 | 0,000 | -2,209 |
| Labor-HHS-Ed: | | | | |
| Budget Authority | | 0,000 | -4,500 | -4,500 |
| Outlays | | 0,000 | -2,295 | -2,295 |
| State-Foreign Operations: | | | | |
| Budget Authority | | 0,000 | -0,750 | -0,750 |
| Outlays | | 0,000 | -0,589 | -0,589 |

DETAIL OF ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024—Continued

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

(\$ in billions)

| Detail of Adjustments Made Above | Emergency | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|---------|
| | Security | Nonsecurity | Total |
| Homeland Security: Budget Authority Outlays | 0.000 | −4.300 | −4.300 |
| Total: Revised Discretionary Budget Authority | 0.000 | −1.605 | −1.605 |
| Revised Discretionary Outlays | −8.000 | −9.550 | −17.550 |
| | −2.209 | −4.489 | −6.698 |

CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES
IN IRREGULAR WARFARE

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I would like to highlight an important provision, which Senator SINEMA and I worked to secure within division A of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024. Within the budget for Defense-Wide Operations and Maintenance, \$5 million is provided for the establishment of a permanent Center of Excellence for the John S. McCain III Center for Security Studies in Irregular Warfare.

This Center, named in honor of the late Senator John McCain, would serve as a central hub for developing knowledge and understanding of irregular warfare through research, education, and external engagement across government, civil society, and foreign partners. Congress authorized the establishment of the Center in 2021.

Both Senator SINEMA and I have had regular conversations with the Department of Defense leadership about the need to establish a permanent Center of Excellence, which by law, must be located at an institution of higher education that has a proven course curriculum and existing research functions focused on irregular warfare, competition, and asymmetric challenges in statecraft and has an established network with other academic institutions to enhance such functions. We have been assured that, as soon as Congress provided dedicated funding to enable the Center of Excellence to be established, the Department would begin the process of selecting the site of the permanent Center of Excellence. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 provides this funding.

Therefore, we hope and expect that the Department of Defense will act, within the next 30 to 45 days, to begin the process of selecting a permanent Center of Excellence. We appreciate the attention the Department has paid to this important project, and look forward to receiving regular and positive updates as this process continues.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD
CONSERVATION ACT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleague Senator BOOZMAN in introducing legislation that reauthorizes and makes improvements to the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act program has historically had

strong bipartisan support, and it has been my honor to champion this program's reauthorization since I was elected to the Senate in 2007. I am pleased to welcome Senator BOOZMAN to this effort after many productive years working with Senator PORTMAN. This is a critical program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that supports habitat conservation work throughout the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Migratory birds undertake awe-inspiring journeys, from as far north as the boreal forests of Canada and the Arctic, to Latin America and the Caribbean. Their journeys require "habitat anchors" that the species have relied on for tens of thousands of years to stop over as they make their migratory journeys. The wetlands of the Chesapeake Bay watershed provide one such critical stepping stone for the 500 hundred species that travel along the Atlantic Flyway.

The program enables the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support conservation partners along migratory flyways throughout the Western Hemisphere. This is the only Federal grant program that ensures that the links in the full migratory chain have the conservation support they need.

Since 2002, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act program has provided more than \$89 million in grants to support 717 projects in 43 countries. The projects funded have positively affected more than 5 million acres of bird habitat and spurred partnerships on multiple levels, contributing to an additional \$346 million. It has fostered international cooperation and has evolved into a powerful conservation alliance.

Throughout my time in the U.S. Senate, I have worked to improve programs, increase authorization levels, and make funding more accessible. Still, historic funding levels have been disappointing. Congressional appropriations for this popular program are far below what is needed to support this important work, especially as climate change continues to put undue stress on our bird populations and their habitats.

Migratory birds rely on water and its associated habitats—lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, swamps, marshes, and coastal wetlands—for breeding, resting and refueling during migration, and wintering. Yet increasing human demand for water, along with climate change, pollution, and other factors are threatening these precious aquatic eco-

systems. Global headlines are sounding the alarm: 35 percent of the world's wetlands, critical to migratory birds, have been lost in the last 50 years. Birds provides critical ecosystem services, and when species are lost, their functions and benefits to particular habitats are lost as well. Birds are important to people and the planet; this is exactly why I have made their protection one of my highest priorities in Congress.

Today, I am celebrating the important improvements this bill makes to the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation program and committing to working in a bipartisan manner to provide increased resources to this worthy endeavor.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this Women's History Month, I find it more important than ever to celebrate and recognize the contributions of women to society. Women's rights are under attack in the United States and around the world. Since the Dobbs decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, we have witnessed policies that are taking away a women's constitutional right to control their own bodies, with many legislators passing harmful abortion restrictions. But, as President Biden said in his State of the Union, "They have no clue about the power of women in America."

This year, the National Women's Alliance has chosen the theme of "Women who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion." To contribute to this theme, I want to honor Maryland's many famous female activists and community leaders throughout history who promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

First, a woman whose contributions cannot be overstated is Harriet Tubman. An abolitionist and political activist best known as the conductor of the Underground Railroad who emancipated an estimated 300 enslaved people. A paragon of freedom and justice, she was born in Dorchester County, MD, in March of 1822. She was also the first American woman to lead an armed military raid, acting as a spy and nurse for the Union Army during the Civil War. After the war, she continued to fight for civil rights, leading the charge for women's suffrage with other significant figures such as Susan B. Anthony. The fight for gender equality

continues today, as I lead my colleagues in working to recognize ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Second, I want to recognize Rachel Carson, a marine biologist and nature writer, who catalyzed the global environmental movement. In her home in Silver Spring, MD, Rachel Carson wrote “Silent Spring,” which outlined the dangers of chemical pesticides to humans and the environment. The pesticide industry pushed back against her, branding her as crazy and communist, but she persevered. Through her continued research and advocacy, “Silent Spring” led to the banning of DDT and other pesticides and ultimately led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. She has been an overwhelming influence on my work to preserve our environment and the Chesapeake Bay.

I also want to honor Irene Morgan Kirkaldy, a Black civil rights activist who took a stand against segregation. Kirkaldy, a Baltimore native, was riding a Greyhound bus back home from Virginia in July of 1944 when she was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a White couple. When her case made it to the Supreme Court, she was represented by Thurgood Marshall, and the Court ruled that segregation violated the Constitution’s “protection of interstate commerce.” Her bravery paved the way for the Civil Rights Movement going forward, including the monumental *Brown v. Board of Education* decision and Rosa Parks’ similar act of resistance in Alabama. Strengthening civil rights and promoting equity has been a major part of my legislative agenda in Congress and before that in the Maryland House of Delegates.

Another incredible female activist I would like to highlight is Pauline Woo Tsui, a Chinese-American anti-discrimination activist who immigrated to the United States during World War II to escape Japanese occupation. A Montgomery County resident, she supported her family by working at the U.S. Army Map Service, while she also served as manager of the Federal Women’s Program, advocating for the rights of around 700 female employees. She cofounded the Organization of Chinese American Women and served on the advisory board for the State Department for International Women’s Year in 1975. As a civil servant and activist, Pauline set a standard for gender equity and ensuring girls had access to education worldwide.

I would additionally like to honor Carmen Delgado Votaw, an author, community leader, and public servant. She was born in Humacao, PR, and settled in Bethesda, MD, in 1962. Serving as cochair of the National Advisory Committee for Women and president of the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, she was instrumental in the civil rights movement for Latinx people. She also became the first

Latina chief of staff to a Member of Congress, and she worked to address challenges faced by Puerto Ricans.

It would be remiss of me not to mention Sharon Brackett, an LGBTQ+ rights activist who became the first transgender woman elected to public office in Maryland. She pushed Howard County to pass a bill that added gender identity and expression to its anti-discrimination laws and served on the Democratic Central Committee starting in 2018. Further, she was named CEO and president of Tiresias Technologies, as engineer-in-residence at the 3D Maryland Innovation + Prototyping Lab, in Columbia.

While these are only a sampling of change-making women in Maryland, they are a symbol of the drive and power that women have brought nationwide. Women outnumber and outvote men, and their continued leadership will be instrumental in promoting the values of the United States: liberty and freedom for all.

TRIBUTE TO CONNIE FLOHR

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Congressman MIKE SIMPSON, I rise today to recognize the career and service of Connie Flohr, manager for the Idaho Cleanup Project. For more than 22 years, Flohr has been a key member of the Department of Energy—DOE—and the Idaho Cleanup Project, ICP.

Flohr joined DOE’s Office of Environmental Management—EM—in 2001 as a program analyst, before moving into positions as chief financial officer, EM budget director, and EM Deputy Assistant Secretary for Resource Management. In these roles, she managed the budget, planning, strategic analysis, human resources, and information technology activities for EM’s 1,450 Federal employees and over 20,000 contractor employees.

Since moving to Idaho in 2017 and taking on roles at the Idaho Cleanup Project, Flohr has served as deputy manager and as the ICP manager since March 2020. She consistently delivered results, saved taxpayers millions of dollars, protected the Snake River Plain Aquifer, and removed substantial risks for the people of Idaho.

Along with these accomplishments as project manager, she is known as an agent of positive change for her influence in improving morale, developing and motivating staff to creatively identify and resolve issues, and effectively incentivizing contractors to make substantial and lasting progress in cleaning up the Department’s legacy nuclear waste. Flohr is responsible for all management and disposition of high-level, transuranic, mixed low-level waste, and spent nuclear fuel—SNF—at the Idaho National Laboratory—INL—Site, providing management oversight and leadership for an annual budget of \$470 million, 52 Federal employees, and over 1,900 contractors.

It is our great honor to congratulate Connie Flohr on this accomplishment, and thank her for her years of service. We wish her the best of luck following her retirement from DOE and the Idaho Cleanup Project.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING SERGE B. HADJI

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute and honor the life of Serge B. Hadji, Esq. He passed away on March 10, 2024, at his home in Athens, Greece, with his wife of 50 years, Yanna, by his side. He was 81.

Serge was a devoted husband; proud father to his three boys Alexios, Philip, and Andreas; an esteemed lawyer; trustee to his alma mater, Anatolia College; mentor; and advocate for Greece, Cyprus, and the unwavering principle that the rule of law be the centerpiece of U.S. foreign policy. He was so much more than that to all that were fortunate enough to know and love him.

Serge’s life story is a quintessential American immigration story. Serge was born in Thessaloniki, Greece, on September 25, 1942, and immigrated to the United States in 1960. He graduated college from the University of Buffalo, received a law degree from the Detroit College of Law, and obtained a masters in law from New York University Law School. He started his career with Rogers Hoge & Hills, a Park Avenue law firm, and went on to become senior counsel at TRW Inc., a Fortune 100 multinational company headquartered in Cleveland, OH. Throughout his legal career, he was a proud member and contributor to the legal community through his involvement with the American Bar Association—Section on Antitrust Law; the Association of the Bar of the City of New York—secretary, Trademark and Unfair Competition Committee, 1977–1980—and the International Trademark Association—member of the board, 1988–1991. He also was an adjunct professor at New York University School of Continuing Education in Law and Taxation and a lecturer at Temple University Law School in Athens, Greece. He was a member of the New York bar and was a New York lawyer through and through, maintaining his membership until he passed away.

Serge was a giant in the Greek-American world. In 1974, Serge cofounded the Panhellenic (Emergency) Committee of New York, one of the grassroots committees that sprung up throughout the U.S. to fill the political vacuum in the Greek-American community following Turkey’s invasion of Cyprus on July 20, 1974. From his perspective as a key participant and keen observer of the intricacies of this issue, he later edited a book chronicling this movement, “The Rule of Law Lobby: Grassroots Mobilization and the U.S. Arms Embargo on

Turkey-1974-1978.” In addition to protesting vociferously and providing humanitarian assistance, the Greek-American community gradually coalesced into a lobby under the newly unfurled banner of the “Rule of Law.” “The Rule of Law Lobby” has been hailed as a seminal book which splendidly portrays the rise and evolution of an American lobby that greatly influenced U.S. policy in the region. Serge remained active with Greek-American issues throughout his life, largely through the American Hellenic Institute, including editing the two-volume series, “Doing Business in Greece: A Legal and Practical Reference Service.”

Serge honorably served on the board of trustees of Anatolia College in Thessaloniki, Greece, for 50 years, since 1974, becoming the first alumnus trustee from Thessaloniki on the board. It was at Anatolia where the head of the school mentored Serge, even long after he graduated. In recognition of his mentor, in 2008, Serge edited a book documenting his mentor’s legacy, “The Morning Cometh: 45 Years with Anatolia College.” It was through Anatolia that Serge embodied the leadership and mentorship principles passed down to him and applied his legal skills toward nonprofit governance. Serge also mentored countless new trustees, presidents, and, most important to him, graduates.

A devout Greek Orthodox Christian, Serge could eruditely explain the faith’s practice, iconography, and history.

Serge is survived by his wife Yanna; his children Alexios, Philip, and Andreas; and his grandchildren Alexander, George, and Philip. May we all live to remember him.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. SHERYL BRISSETT CHAPMAN

• Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman and leader of our time, Dr. Sheryl Brissett Chapman. After more than three decades of service as executive director of The National Center for Children and Families—NCCF—she will be stepping down at the end of March.

In the course of her tenure, Dr. Brissett Chapman transformed NCCF from a small Baptist orphanage in Bethesda, MD, into a monumental force for good, serving over 53,155 vulnerable children, youth, and families in the National Capital Region. Her visionary expansion of NCCF saw the creation of 24 innovative programs, the addition of vital service locations and staff, and a \$51 million growth in budget. This transformative growth has not only changed the face of NCCF but has re-written futures, healed traumas, and built bridges to opportunities for a countless number of children, youth, and families. She and NCCF have called Maryland home during this incredible transformation. We are both extremely honored and incredibly

proud that Dr. Brissett Chapman and NCCF have delivered these services from within our local community.

Yet Dr. Brissett Chapman’s influence extends far beyond her executive role. She is a champion in the effort to address systemic reform on a wide range of topics, including the harsh realities of poverty, juvenile justice, homelessness, domestic violence, and illuminating the path to healing from childhood trauma with unwavering dedication and empathy. Her most recent publication, “Black Male Youth Raised in Public Systems: Engagement, Healing, Hope,” underscores her dedication to understanding and addressing the unique challenges faced by Black male youth in public systems. This is just one example of her relentless pursuit of knowledge for empowerment and change.

Even as she prepares for retirement, Dr. Brissett Chapman’s commitment to education remains unwavering. Her new roles as a trustee for Montgomery College and as a senior fellow for the Institute for Mastery and Integration further attest to her ongoing dedication to improving lives through education and advocacy, guiding the next generation of leaders and advocates. Maryland will continue to have the honor of being called home to both Dr. Brissett Chapman and NCCF as each continues to transform the lives of our youth.

As Dr. Brissett Chapman turns the page to a new chapter, she leaves a blueprint for compassionate, effective leadership in social welfare. Her impact and service will continue to be felt for decades to come, as her legacy continues to inspire and guide our collective efforts to serve the most vulnerable and to demonstrate what it means to be a force for change. Her legacy is one of hope. Thousands of lives in the National Capital Region and the State of Maryland have been transformed because of Dr. Brissett Chapman, and I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her and wishing her a well-earned, enjoyable, and fulfilling retirement.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in Executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1836. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to make technical corrections with respect to ocean shipping authorities, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 86. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy.

At 12:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2882) to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 100. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 2882.

At 4:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7023. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide regulatory and judicial certainty for regulated entities and communities, increase transparency, and promote water quality, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 51312(b), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Mr. Suozzi of New York.

At 2:27 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2882. An act making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1836. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to make technical corrections with respect to ocean shipping authorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 7023. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide regulatory and judicial certainty for regulated entities and communities, increase transparency, and promote water quality, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 86. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4072. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following joint resolutions were read the first time:

S.J. Res. 67. Joint resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

S.J. Res. 68. Joint resolution providing for the issuance of a summons, providing for the appointment of a committee to receive and to report evidence, and establishing related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

S.J. Res. 69. Joint resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3848. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-406, “Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3849. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-407, “Uniform Commercial Code Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3850. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-408, “Housing Subsidy Contract Stabilization Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3851. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-409, “Litter Control Amendment Act of 2024”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3852. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Office of Legal Policy, Department

of Justice, on behalf of all the participating Agencies, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Partnerships With Faith-Based and Neighborhood Organizations” (RIN1105-AB64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3853. A communication from the Director of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2022-009, Certification of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses” (RIN9000-AO46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3854. A communication from the Director of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-03, Introduction” (FAC 2024-03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3855. A communication from the Director of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2023-012, Trade Agreement Thresholds” (RIN9000-AO62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3856. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of the General Counsel, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Updated Guidance for Non-Federal Entities Access to Federal Supply Schedules” (RIN3090-AK21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3857. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of the General Counsel, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Removing Small Disadvantaged Business Program Requirements to Align with the FAR” (RIN3090-AK78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 29, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3858. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3859. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting, pursuant to Section 102(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, the Office’s Biennial Report on Occupational Safety and Health Inspections for the 116th Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3860. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration’s Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) and Privacy Management

Report; to the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and Appropriations.

EC-3861. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Privacy Act Exemption for AssuranceNet” (RIN0583-AD82) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3862. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Dairy Margin Coverage Production History Adjustment and Program Extension” (RIN0560-AI66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3863. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Early Harvest Insurance Flexibility for Sugar Beets” (RIN0563-AC84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3864. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Actual Production History and Other Crop Insurance Transparency” (RIN0563-AC83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3865. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, six (6) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3866. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cloquintocet-mexyl in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerances for Residues” (FRL No. 11811-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3867. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modifying and Expanding Access in the 70/80/90 GHz Bands, Report, and Order” (FCC 24-16) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 18, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3868. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, “Geospatial Data Act Report to Congress”; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3869. A communication from the Director of Rulemaking Operations, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Improvements for Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Fuel Efficiency Test Procedures, and Other Technical Amendments” (RIN2127-

AM28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3870. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Puhi and Kekaha, Hawaii)” (MB Docket No. 23-197) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3871. A communication from the Senior Attorney, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Hazardous Materials: Adoption of Miscellaneous Petitions and Updating Regulatory Requirements” (RIN2137-AF49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3872. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Demurrage and Detention Billing Requirements” (RIN3072-AC90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3873. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Illinois River MM 165.5 Peoria, IL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0043) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3874. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Oakland Estuary, Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0917)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3875. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Lake Charles, Lake Charles, LA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0908) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3876. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River MM 660.5-659.5, Lansing, IA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0933)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3877. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio River Mile Markers 79.5-80, Wellsburg, WV” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0660)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3878. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio River, Mile Markers 317 to 317.5,

Catlettsburg, KY” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0649)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3879. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, San Pedro Bay, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0987)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3880. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Laguna de Lobina, Culebra, Puerto Rico” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0965)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3881. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Illinois River MM 165-166, Peoria, IL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0935)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3882. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Little Potato Slough, Stockton, CA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2024-0070)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3883. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Ohio River Mile Markers 2.5-3, Brunot Island, PA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2024-0010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3884. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Saugatuck River, Westport, CT” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2022-0518)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3885. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Jupiter, FL” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0652)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3886. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Mianus River, Greenwich, CT” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0520)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3887. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Housatonic River, Stratford, CT” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2022-0519)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3888. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Special Local Regulation; Glass City Glowtacular, Maumee River; Toledo, OH” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0671)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3889. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Youth for the Future Fireworks, St. Clair River; Algona, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0688)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3890. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Operation Safe Harbor Exercise, Mackinaw Island, MI” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0667)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3891. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Savannah River, M/V BIGLIFT BARENTSZ, Savannah, GA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0542)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3892. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Security Zone; Nantucket Memorial Airport and Abrams Point, Nantucket, MA” ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0848)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3893. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Addison Point, FL” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0842)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3894. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Savannah, GA” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0814)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3895. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Pequonnock River, Bridgeport, CT” ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0175)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3896. A communication from the Legal Tech, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Great Lakes Pilotage Rates - 2024 Annual Review" ((RIN1625-AC89)) (Docket No. USCG-2023-0438) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3897. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4102" ((RIN2120-AA65)) (Docket No. 31533) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3898. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4101" ((RIN2120-AA65)) (Docket No. 31532) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3899. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Spanish Fork Municipal Airport/Woodhouse Field, Spanish Fork, UT" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1757) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3900. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of VOR Federal Airways V-78 and V-171; Darwin, MN" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1735) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3901. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class B Airspace Description; Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, KY" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2377) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3902. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Ebensburg, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2341) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3903. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Anderson, IN" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2429) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3904. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Federal Airway V-4 in the Vicinity of Burley, ID" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2453) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3905. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Clarksburg, WV" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2362) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3906. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mankato, MN" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2432) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3907. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Green (G-4) in the Vicinity of Dillingham, AK" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1464) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3908. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Alaskan Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airway V-333 in the Vicinity of Shismaref, AK, and Revocation of Alaskan VOR Federal Airway V-401 in the Vicinity of Ambler, AK" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1147) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3909. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Blue 12 (B-12) in the Vicinity of Kodiak Island, AK" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1441) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3910. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Multiple Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Hawaiian Islands" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0900) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3911. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q-97; Maine" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0368) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3912. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airway V-9; Arkansas" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1829) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3913. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Restricted Areas R-2510A and R-2510B in the Vicinity of El Centro, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0291) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3914. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment and Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1835) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3915. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Danville, IL" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2340) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3916. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1830) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3917. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1830) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3918. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Camp Pohakuloa, HI" ((RIN2120-AA66)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2099) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3919. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22676" ((RIN2120-AA64)) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3920. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Adminis-

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership (Type Certificate Previously Held by C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership (CSALP); Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22679” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1810)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3921. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters; Amendment 39-22689” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0453)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3922. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited Helicopters; Amendment 39-22674” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0226)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3923. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Robinson Helicopter Company Helicopters; Amendment 39-22681” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2232)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3924. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; GE Aviation Czech s.r.o. (Type Certificate Previously Held by WALTER Engines a.s., Walter a.s., and MOTORLET a.s.) Engines; Amendment 39-22668” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3925. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Pratt and Whitney Canada Corp. Engines; Amendment 39-22670” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2147)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3926. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Austro Engine GmbH Engines; Amendment 39-22691” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0456)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3927. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22671” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1704)) received in the

Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3928. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by 328 Support Services GmbH; Avercraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22677” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2230)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3929. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22672” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2141)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3930. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the Naval Magazine Indian Island Ammunition Wharf Maintenance and Pile Replacement Project, Puget Sound, Washington” ((RIN0648-BL79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3931. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species” ((RIN0648-BH50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3932. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna and Northern Albacore Tuna Quotas; Atlantic Bigeye and Yellowfin Tuna Size Limit Regulations” ((RIN0648-BH54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3933. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; 2019 Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishing Year” ((RIN0648-XG263) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3934. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Removal of Billfish Certificate of Eligibility Requirements” ((RIN0648-BJ29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3935. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries Management” ((RIN0648-BI08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3936. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Pelagic Longline Fishery Management” ((RIN0648-BI51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3937. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Blueline Tilefish Fishery; 2023 Blueline Tilefish Commercial Quota Harvested” ((RIN0648-XD324) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3938. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” ((RIN0648-XD264) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3939. A communication from the Acting Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Fishing Year 2022 Recreational Management Measures” ((RIN0648-BL40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3940. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; Amendment 51” ((RIN0648-BM03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3941. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; Amendment 49” ((RIN0648-BML93) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3942. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #27-#31” ((RIN0648-XD444) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3943. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West

Coast States; West Coast Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Program; Service Provider Revisions" (RIN0648-BM29) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3944. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XD331) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3945. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; 'Other Rockfish' in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XD210) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3946. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XD276) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3947. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XD479) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3948. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; 2024 Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishing Year" (RIN0648-BM33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3949. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fishery 2023" (RIN0648-XD387) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3950. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Adjustments to 2023 North Atlantic Albacore Tuna, North and South Atlantic Swordfish, and Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Reserve Category Quotas" (RIN0648-XC870) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3951. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Ma-

rine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery" (RIN0648-BF01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3952. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Temporary Measures To Reduce 2023 Atlantic Mackerel Catch" (RIN0648-BM61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3953. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; 2023 Management Area 1A Possession Limit Adjustment" (RIN0648-XD519) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 12, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3954. A communication from the Deputy Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks and Hammerhead Sharks in the Western Gulf of Mexico Sub-Region; Closure" (RIN0648-XA073) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3955. A communication from the Deputy Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XT035) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 11, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3956. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries" (RIN0648-XT032) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3957. A communication from the National Listing Coordinator of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Final Rule To List the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin as an Endangered Species Under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-XR118) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3958. A communication from the National Listing Coordinator of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Listing the Queen Conch as Threatened Under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-XR071) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3959. A communication from the National Listing Coordinator of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Nassau Grouper" (RIN0648-BL53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2024" (Rept. No. 118-162).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 4051. A bill to prohibit transportation of any alien using certain methods of identification, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4052. A bill to direct the United States Postal Service to designate a single, unique ZIP Code for Scotland, Connecticut; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4053. A bill to prohibit the sale, lease, or loan of used motor vehicles with open recalls to consumers by auto dealers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 4054. A bill to require entities to meet minimum cybersecurity standards to be eligible for Medicare accelerated and advance payment programs if the reason for the need for such payments is due to a cybersecurity incident; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 4055. A bill to provide for a pilot program to improve contracting outcomes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4056. A bill to reduce enteric methane emissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4057. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Ms.

HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 4058. A bill to require that the regulations related to SAVE Plan shall have the force and effect of enacted law; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 4059. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 4060. A bill to improve maternal health policies in correctional facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 4061. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain a toll-free telephone helpline for veterans and other eligible individuals to use to obtain information about the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 4062. A bill to establish a pilot program to assess the use of technology to speed up and enhance the cargo inspection process at land ports of entry along the border; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. REED, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4063. A bill to establish a State public option through Medicaid to provide Americans with the choice of a high-quality, low-cost health insurance plan; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 4064. A bill to amend section 50905 of title 51, United States Code, to extend and modify provisions relating to license applications and requirements for commercial space launch activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4065. A bill to prohibit discrimination in health care and require the provision of equitable health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4066. A bill to improve Federal technology procurement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. Kaine):

S. 4067. A bill to provide for an annual report on the prosecution activities of the Coordinator for Caribbean Firearms Prosecutions of the Department of Justice; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4068. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a business tax credit for the purchase of zero-emission electric lawn, garden, and landscape equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 4069. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for terms and conditions for nonimmigrant workers performing agricultural labor or services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 4070. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify the definition of "small refinery" for purposes of the Renewable Fuel Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 4071. A bill to establish an Office of Colonias and Farmworker Initiatives within the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRAPO:

S. 4072. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4073. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to waive certain sanctions with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S.J. Res. 67. A joint resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security; read the first time.

By Mr. LEE:

S.J. Res. 68. A joint resolution providing for the issuance of a summons, providing for the appointment of a committee to receive and to report evidence, and establishing related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas; read the first time.

By Mr. LEE:

S.J. Res. 69. A joint resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CASSIDY, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. Res. 616. A resolution condemning the treatment of Dr. Gubad Ibadoglu by the Government of Azerbaijan and urging his immediate release, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. Res. 617. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Israel has the inherent right to defend itself and take necessary steps to eradicate the terrorist threat posed by Hamas; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 618. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Countering International Parental Child Abduction Month" and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. Res. 619. A resolution honoring the 65th anniversary of the uprising of the people of Tibet in defense of freedom; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. ERNST):

S. Res. 620. A resolution demanding that the international community hold accountable those who perpetrated acts of sexual violence and sexual torture during and after the attack on the State of Israel on October 7, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. LUJAN):

S. Res. 621. A resolution designating March 24th, 2024, as "National Women of Color in Tech Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. Res. 622. A resolution providing for the issuance of a summons, providing for the appointment of a committee to receive and to report evidence, and establishing related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. Res. 623. A resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. Res. 624. A resolution to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Con. Res. 31. A concurrent resolution recognizing the need to improve physical access to many federally funded facilities for all people of the United States, particularly people with disabilities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARPER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of International Transgender Day of Visibility; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. Res. 625. A resolution recognizing the week of March 17 through March 23, 2024, as “National Poison Prevention Week” and encouraging communities across the United States to raise awareness of the dangers of poisoning and promote poison prevention; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 16

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 16, a bill to prohibit the award of Federal funds to an institution of higher education that hosts or is affiliated with a student-based service site that provides abortion drugs or abortions to students of the institution or to employees of the institution or site, and for other purposes.

S. 140

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 140, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 704

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for interest-free deferment on student loans for borrowers serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program.

S. 1064

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1064, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson’s, to be known as the National Parkinson’s Project, and for other purposes.

S. 1521

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1521, a bill to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize and improve the licensing of non-Federal hydropower projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1677

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1677, a bill to secure the Federal voting rights of persons when released from incarceration.

S. 1851

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1851, a bill to address maternity care shortages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes.

S. 2095

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2095, a bill to authorize the Federal Communications Commission to enforce its own forfeiture penalties with respect to violations of restrictions on the use of telephone equipment.

S. 2337

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate certain limitations with respect to pre-production plastic pellet pollution, and for other purposes.

S. 2415

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2415, a bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize Federal support of States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes.

S. 2462

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2462, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the 7-year recovery period for motorsports entertainment complexes.

S. 2713

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2713, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to make commodities available for the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2781

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2781, a bill to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines, and for other purposes.

S. 3068

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3068, a bill to require each enterprise to include on the Uniform Residential Loan Application a disclaimer to increase awareness of the direct and

guaranteed home loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3716

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3716, a bill to create children’s lifetime savings accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 3755

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3755, a bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes.

S. 3957

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3957, a bill to require the Director of National Intelligence to develop a strategy to improve the sharing of information and intelligence on foreign adversary tactics and illicit activities affecting the ability of United States persons to compete in foreign jurisdictions on projects relating to energy generation and storage, and for other purposes.

S. 3963

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3963, a bill to clarify that noncommercial species found entirely within the borders of a single State are not in interstate commerce or subject to regulation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 or any other provision of law enacted as an exercise of the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce.

S. 3991

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3991, a bill to expand the scope of the Do Not Call rules under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act to include all telephone subscribers, and to expand the private right of action for calls in violation of those rules.

S. 3997

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3997, a bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in basic science research.

S. 4032

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4032, a bill to authorize

magistrate judges to issue arrest warrants for certain criminal aliens.

S. 4039

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4039, a bill to establish the Federal Labor-Management Partnership Council, and for other purposes.

S. 4046

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4046, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify authorities relating to the collective bargaining of employees in the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 65

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 65, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter”.

S. CON. RES. 24

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 24, a concurrent resolution condemning the hostilities in Sudan and standing with the people of Sudan in their calls for peace and their democratic aspirations.

S. RES. 559

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 559, a resolution recognizing the actions of the Rapid Support Forces and allied militia in the Darfur region of Sudan against non-Arab ethnic communities as acts of genocide.

AMENDMENT NO. 1706

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1706 proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1708

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1708 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1713

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1713 proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1718

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of

amendment No. 1718 proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1719

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1719 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1722

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1722 proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1722 proposed to H.R. 2882, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 1725

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1725 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1725 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 1732

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1732 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1733

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1733 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1734

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1734 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1735

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1735 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1740

At the request of Ms. ERNST, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1740 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2882, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. REED, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4063. A bill to establish a State public option through Medicaid to provide Americans with the choice of a high-quality, low-cost health insurance plan; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, earlier this week, some Republicans—I think the Republican Study Committee, 170 House Members—released their plans for governing next year. Here are some of the things on their healthcare wish list: ending Medicare as we know it, which would drive up costs and threaten care for seniors; trying again—I think we are now on 50 attempts—to gut the Affordable Care Act, leaving tens of millions of Americans without coverage overnight and punishing people with preexisting conditions; and banning abortions, IVF, and contraception in every single State through bills “designed to advance the cause of life.”

If budgets are statements of a party’s value, then Republicans are making no secret of theirs: less access to quality healthcare and less control over their personal health.

And there is no reason not to take them at their word, other than that, if we take them at their word, you sort of sound like you are exaggerating. That is the problem. It is that what they are proposing is so outlandish, that it sounds like, you know, a Democrat and someone who wants my point of view to win the day. It sounds like I am exaggerating their point of view.

I actually had to read this stuff from the Republican study group, and they are way out of the mainstream—way out of the mainstream. Again, there is no reason not to take them at their word because, in Congress and in Statehouses across the country, Republicans say what they want to do, and then they do it. It doesn’t matter how cruel these policies are, how unpopular their positions are. They have not been able to show any restraint whatsoever when it comes to enacting this extreme agenda.

And it is extreme. Millions of Americans are left to endure the disastrous consequences of this crusade every day. If Republicans have their way, millions of people will lose their healthcare. Seniors and people with preexisting conditions will be forced to pay outrageous out-of-pocket costs, just to get lifesaving procedures and medications. And young people will be kicked off of their parents’ plan immediately. And women across the country will be forced to carry doomed pregnancies to term. Families trying to start a family

will have one less option, at least, with IVF not even available to them.

This is not what we should be fighting for. We have to work to get more people covered, because high-quality, low-cost healthcare should not be a luxury available to some, and, frankly—and I believe this—there is going to be a point where we don't fight about healthcare anymore. There is going to be a point at which Republicans realize that taking away people's healthcare, taking away people's autonomy as it relates to their own bodies, is just an electoral loser.

We are getting there on Obamacare. I thought we had kind of gotten there after multiple attempts to repeal it, but here they are again, trying to start that effort again.

Democrats are focusing on lowering premium and drug prescription costs so getting healthcare doesn't bankrupt people. And even the Republicans in Washington and across the country, as they try to control women by dismantling reproductive freedoms, Democrats are fighting to codify Roe into Federal law.

Democrats have done more than just give speeches about healthcare. We have actually delivered. It was 14 years ago that we passed the Affordable Care Act, which has since helped more than 40 million Americans get their coverage and has improved health outcomes for so many people: women, children, seniors, people with disabilities, people in rural communities.

And so it is no wonder that, more than a decade later, the ACA continues to grow in popularity and is setting new records every year for enrollment. Why? Because people actually like having healthcare. Republicans, Democrats, Independents, voters, not voters—everybody basically thinks that we should have a system that treats you humanely if you are sick.

But it hasn't stopped Republicans from trying again and again to repeal it, through Supreme Court cases, Executive orders, and legislation. They have failed every time.

Meanwhile, Democrats continue to build on the ACA's progress, including recently with the Inflation Reduction Act and the American Rescue Plan, because there are now tax credits and other measures in those bills that enable millions of Americans to save, on average, \$800 a year on premiums. And the number of uninsured is at an all-time low. The number of uninsured is at an alltime low, and the reason for that is legislation that fortunately passed. But we, unfortunately, did not have a single Republican vote for the Affordable Care Act, for the American Rescue Plan, or for the Inflation Reduction Act.

For the first time ever, people with Medicare are paying less for insulin, which is now capped at \$35, and saving money on a whole range of other prescription drugs. This is what progress looks like.

But there are still millions of Americans, especially in the middle class,

who don't get coverage through work but make too much to qualify for subsidies, and they deserve coverage too. The State Public Option Act, which I am reintroducing today with colleagues in the Senate and House, would help to bridge that gap. It helps to provide a public option to anyone who wants health insurance by allowing States to create a Medicaid buy-in program that is not based on income.

State public-option programs have shown to lower costs, increase consumers' choice in plans, and improve equity in coverage. Several States—including Maine, Minnesota, and New Mexico—are already exploring creating exactly this kind of buy-in approach. The State Public Option Act would help other States to follow suit.

The bottom line is this: Healthcare is a necessity and not a luxury, and it shouldn't be something the political parties argue about. In the richest country in human history, having it should not depend on your job or your economic status. It ought to be available, accessible, and affordable to everybody. The vast majority of Americans agree, but there is only one party today fighting to make it a reality.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4065. A bill to prohibit discrimination in health care and require the provision of equitable health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Equal Health Care for All Act, which appropriately frames healthcare discrimination as a civil rights issue.

Inequitable access to quality, affordable healthcare is the result of centuries of structural and systemic racism, all of which continues to result in poorer health outcomes in communities of color.

Black, Hispanic, and indigenous individuals are disproportionately more likely than their White counterparts to suffer from a range of illnesses, from asthma to heart disease to prostate cancer.

Inequitable outcomes are not exclusive to racial trends, however. Women are both diagnosed with and die from lung cancer at a higher rate than men, when comparing those who never smoked. And while rates of lung cancer have dropped, women fall behind while rates of cancer drop faster for men.

The Equal Health Care for All Act seeks to address structural inequities by establishing a legal definition of "inequitable health care" and creating a formal process to enforce the standard.

The bill would also establish a grant program to assist hospitals and other providers in implementing reforms to ensure equitable care and would establish a permanent Federal Health Equity Commission to study and make recommendations on health equity issues.

I would like to thank my colead, Representative ADAM SCHIFF, for his leadership in California and for leading on this issue in the House.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Equal Health Care for All Act as quickly as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 616—CONDAMNING THE TREATMENT OF DR. GUBAD IBADOGHLU BY THE GOVERNMENT OF AZERBAIJAN AND URGING HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. FETTERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 616

Whereas Dr. Gubad Ibadoglu, a respected academic and economist, and his wife, Irada Bayramova, were arrested by Azerbaijani authorities on July 23, 2023, and severely beaten in police custody;

Whereas Dr. Ibadoglu was dubiously accused by Azerbaijani authorities of multiple criminal acts without evidence;

Whereas Dr. Ibadoglu remains imprisoned at the Baku Detention Center in extremely poor conditions while awaiting trial;

Whereas Dr. Ibadoglu's health has deteriorated significantly since his initial arrest, and he has not received adequate medical treatment for his medical condition;

Whereas Dr. Ibadoglu has been repeatedly denied access to his legal counsel and a fair trial while in custody;

Whereas the Department of State and the United States Embassy in Baku, along with United States academic institutions and respected international organizations, have expressed deep concerns regarding Dr. Ibadoglu's health and have demanded his immediate release;

Whereas Azerbaijan's ties with the community of democracies has been undermined by a troubling record of wrongfully detaining those involved in human rights, journalism, and peaceful freedom of expression, including Bakhtiyar Hajiyev, Avaz Zeynalli, and Elchin Sadigov;

Whereas the wrongful detention of Dr. Ibadoglu is a serious affront to human rights and academic freedom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns—

(A) the treatment of Dr. Ibadoglu by the Government of Azerbaijan;

(B) such government's practice of wrongful detention; and

(C) such government's suppression of academic freedom;

(2) calls for the immediate and unconditional release of political prisoners in Azerbaijan, including Dr. Ibadoglu; and

(3) urges the Secretary of State to continue prioritizing Dr. Ibadoglu's well-being and release in all engagements with the Government of Azerbaijan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 617—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ISRAEL HAS THE INHERENT RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF AND TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO ERADICATE THE TERRORIST THREAT POSED BY HAMAS

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 617

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Israel has the inherent right to defend itself and take necessary steps to eradicate the terrorist threat posed by Hamas; and

(2) any call for elections in Israel by a United States Government official is to be considered an act of electoral interference.

SENATE RESOLUTION 618—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF “COUNTERING INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION MONTH” AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CONGRESS SHOULD RAISE AWARENESS OF THE HARM CAUSED BY INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 618

Whereas thousands of children have been abducted from the United States by parents, separating those children from their parents who remain in the United States;

Whereas it is illegal under section 1204 of title 18, United States Code, to remove, or attempt to remove, a child from the United States or to retain a child (who has been in the United States) outside of the United States with the intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights;

Whereas 9,816 children were reported abducted from the United States between 2010 and 2020;

Whereas, during 2022, one or more cases of international parental child abduction involving children who are citizens of the United States were identified in 99 countries around the world;

Whereas the United States is a party to the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, done at The Hague, October 25, 1980 (TIAS 11670) (referred to in this preamble as the “Hague Convention on Abduction”), which—

(1) supports the prompt return of wrongly removed or retained children; and

(2) calls for all participating parties to respect parental custody rights;

Whereas the majority of children who were abducted from the United States have yet to be reunited with their custodial parents;

Whereas, in 2022, Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Ecuador, Egypt, Honduras, India,

Jordan, the Republic of Korea, Peru, Romania, the Russian Federation, and the United Arab Emirates were identified pursuant to the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.) as engaging in a pattern of noncompliance (as defined in section 3 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 9101));

Whereas, between 2015 and 2022, a total of 19 countries were previously identified as engaging in a pattern of noncompliance, including Austria, the Bahamas, the People’s Republic of China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Tunisia, showing the importance of continued enforcement of United States law by the executive branch to ensure the return of abducted children;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States has recognized that family abduction—

(1) is a form of child abuse with potentially “devastating consequences for a child”, which may include negative impacts on the physical and mental well-being of the child; and

(2) may cause a child to “experience a loss of community and stability, leading to loneliness, anger, and fear of abandonment”;

Whereas, according to the 2010 Report on Compliance with the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction by the Department of State, an abducted child is at risk of significant short- and long-term problems, including “anxiety, eating problems, nightmares, mood swings, sleep disturbances, and aggressive behavior”;

Whereas international parental child abduction has devastating emotional consequences for the child and for the parent from whom the child is separated;

Whereas the United States has a history of promoting child welfare through institutions, including—

(1) the Children’s Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services; and

(2) the Office of Children’s Issues of the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the Department of State;

Whereas the Coalition to End International Parental Child Abduction, through dedicated advocacy and regular testimony, has highlighted the importance of this issue to Congress and called on successive administrations to take concerted action to stop international parental child abduction and repatriate kidnapped United States children;

Whereas Bring Abducted Children Home, Bring Our Kids Home, iStand Parent Network, and the Coalition to End International Parental Child Abduction have been recognized by the Department of Justice as non-profit organizations specializing in international parental child abduction;

Whereas Congress has signaled a commitment to ending international parental child abduction by enacting—

(1) the International Child Abduction Remedies Act (22 U.S.C. 9001 et seq.);

(2) the International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-173), which enacted section 1204 of title 18, United States Code; and

(3) the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.);

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 543, 112th Congress, agreed to on December 4, 2012, condemning the international abduction of children;

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 431, 115th Congress, agreed to on April 19, 2018, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, international parental child abduction;

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 23, 116th Congress, agreed to on April 11, 2019, to raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction;

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 568, 117th Congress, agreed to on July 21, 2022, to raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction;

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 115, 118th Congress, agreed to on May, 10 2023, to raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction;

Whereas Congress calls upon the Department of State to fully utilize the tools available under the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 9101 et seq.) to negotiate, and make publicly available, bilateral agreements or memorandums of understanding—

(1) with countries not parties to the Hague Convention on Abduction to resolve abduction and access cases; and

(2) regarding open abduction and access cases predating the Hague Convention on Abduction with countries that have thereafter become parties to the Hague Convention on Abduction;

Whereas all 50 States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws criminalizing parental kidnapping;

Whereas, in 2022, the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children’s Issues of the Department of State—

(1) fielded more than 4,900 inquiries from the general public relating to preventing a child from being removed from the United States; and

(2) enrolled more than 3,500 children in the Children’s Passport Issuance Alert Program, which—

(A) is one of the most important tools of the Department of State for preventing international parental child abduction;

(B) allows the Office of Children’s Issues to contact the enrolling parent or legal guardian to verify whether the parental consent requirement has been met when a passport application has been submitted for an enrolled child; and

(C) has enrolled a total of over 62,400 children in the program since its inception;

Whereas the Department of State cannot track the ultimate destination of a child through the use of the passport issued by the Department of State if the child is transported to a third country after departing from the United States;

Whereas a child who is a citizen of the United States may have another nationality and may travel using a passport issued by another country, which—

(1) increases the difficulty of determining the whereabouts of the child; and

(2) makes efforts to prevent abduction more critical;

Whereas, during 2022, 165 children were returned to the United States, and an additional 117 abduction cases, involving 145 children, were resolved without the children being returned to the United States; and

Whereas, in 2022, the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Prevention Branch of the Office of Children’s Issues of the Department of State, enrolled 307 children in the Prevent Abduction Program, which is aimed at preventing international parental child abduction through coordination with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol officers at the airport, seaport, or land border ports of entry by intercepting the child before departure: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and observes “Countering International Parental Child Abduction

Month" during the period beginning on April 1, 2024, and ending on April 30, 2024, to raise awareness of, and opposition to, international parental child abduction; and

(2) urges the United States to continue playing a leadership role in raising awareness about the devastating impacts of international parental child abduction by educating the public about the negative emotional, psychological, and physical consequences to children and parents victimized by international parental child abduction.

SENATE RESOLUTION 619—HONORING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UPRISING OF THE PEOPLE OF TIBET IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM

Mr. CRUZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 619

Whereas, on October 7, 1950, forces of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) entered Tibet with the goal of imposing Chinese Communist rule on the people of Tibet and subjugating it to the rule of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the Tibetan people resisted peacefully in defense of their freedom, faith, and culture and have sought to protect their national identity from the progressive encroachment by the Chinese Communist Party, and continue to do so;

Whereas, on March 10, 1959, hundreds of thousands of Tibetans gathered in Lhasa to prevent a reported PLA plot to abduct the Dalai Lama;

Whereas, on March 12, 1959, approximately 5,000 women joined in those demonstrations for their national identity and freedom;

Whereas the Chinese Communist Party subsequently executed many of those women for their participation;

Whereas, on the evening of March 17, 1959, artillery shells landed near the residence of the Dalai Lama;

Whereas the Dalai Lama decided to leave Lhasa for India, where he arrived on March 30, 1959;

Whereas protests continued after the Dalai Lama's departure and spread across the city and region;

Whereas PLA soldiers in central Tibet eventually killed an estimated 86,000 Tibetans;

Whereas, as a result of the widespread slaughter of Tibetans in and after the Lhasa Uprising, a 1959 finding by the International Commission of Jurists found that the People's Republic of China's treatment of Tibetans constituted genocide;

Whereas the People's Republic of China has deepened its repression of the people of Tibet, exploits Tibet's natural resources to advance the interests of the Chinese Communist Party, and seeks to undermine freedom of religion and conscience in Tibet by determining the spiritual succession of the Dalai Lama;

Whereas, for 65 years, the Dalai Lama continues to defend the cause of Tibetan freedom and national identity on the global stage; and

Whereas the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.) provided for a Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues in the Department of State, tasked to "coordinate United States Government policies, programs, and projects", but the Secretary of State has not designated a non-concurrent appointment to that position: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) stands with the people of Tibet and the Dalai Lama in their continuing defense of their freedom and national identity;

(2) condemns the Chinese Communist Party for its repression of the people of Tibet, its exploitation of Tibet's natural resources, and its efforts to undermine freedom of religion and conscience in Tibet, including through efforts to determine the spiritual succession of the Dalai Lama;

(3) recommits to the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 as the basis of United States engagement with Tibet and its people;

(4) calls upon the President to—

(A) ensure that the voice, vote, and diplomatic capital of the United States are utilized to address and counter China's repression of the people of Tibet; and

(B) include mention of the legitimate aspirations of the people of Tibet to freedom and national identity in all engagements with the People's Republic of China and particularly in engagements that include the human rights situation in that country; and

(5) calls upon the Secretary of State to ensure independent focus on Tibet by designating a non-concurrent appointment to the position of Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues.

SENATE RESOLUTION 620—DEMANDING THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HOLD ACCOUNTABLE THOSE WHO PERPETRATED ACTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL TORTURE DURING AND AFTER THE ATTACK ON THE STATE OF ISRAEL ON OCTOBER 7, 2023

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 620

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas launched an unprovoked attack against the State of Israel, brutally murdering more than 1,200 innocent men, women, and children while injuring thousands more;

Whereas, from January 29, 2024, to February 14, 2024, at the invitation of the Government of the State of Israel, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC) Pramila Patten, along with technical experts, led an official visit to the State of Israel to gather information in order to verify allegations of sexual violence and sexual torture committed during and after the October 7 attack;

Whereas the SRSG-SVC and technical experts conducted a total of 33 meetings with personnel from Israeli national institutions and visited the Israeli National Center of Forensic Medicine, the Shura military base, the morgue where bodies of victims have been transferred, and four locations attacked on October 7;

Whereas the SRSG-SVC and technical experts reviewed more than 5,000 photographic images and approximately 50 hours of footage of the October 7 attack and conducted confidential interviews with a total of 34 interviewees impacted by the attack, including survivors, witnesses, released hostages, first responders, and health and service providers;

Whereas the SRSG-SVC and technical experts were made aware that there are victims still undergoing treatment for the severe mental distress and trauma endured as a result of the sexual violence committed

against them both during and after the October 7 attack;

Whereas, on March 4, 2024, the SRSG-SVC released a report containing the findings of the official visit;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, "there are reasonable grounds to believe that conflict-related sexual violence occurred during the 7 October attacks in multiple locations across Gaza periphery, including rape and gang rape, in at least three locations", with most victims first being raped and then murdered;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, there are "accounts of individuals who witnessed at least two incidents of rape of corpses of women" and other accounts that describe "multiple murdered individuals, mostly women, whose bodies were found naked from the waist down, some totally naked, with some gunshots in the head and/or tied including with their hands bound behind their backs and tied to structures such as trees or poles";

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, there were multiple incidents of sexual violence, including the rape of multiple women, along Road 232, one of the main roads along which attendees of the Nova music festival and other locals fled during the October 7 attack;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, in Kibbutz Re'im, there were multiple incidents of sexual violence, including the rape of a woman outside of a bomb shelter, and two women were found on the floor naked inside a home with gunshot wounds to their heads;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, in Kibbutz Be'eri, credible information was received that bodies were "found naked and/or tied, and in one case gagged," in destroyed houses and the surrounding area;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, in Kibbutz Kfar Aza, first responders reported finding women naked with their hands tied behind their backs and with gunshot wounds to the head, indicating sexual violence and sexual torture;

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, at Nahal Oz military base, seven soldiers were discovered to have "gunshot wounds around the genitalia and/or buttocks";

Whereas, according to the report released by the SRSG-SVC, "the mission team found clear and convincing information that some [hostages taken to Gaza] have been subjected to various forms of conflict-related sexual violence including rape and sexualized torture and sexualized cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and it also has reasonable grounds to believe that such violence may be ongoing";

Whereas, despite the overwhelming evidence that sexual violence was committed during and after the October 7 attack, the "visit [by the SRSG-SVC and technical experts] was neither intended nor mandated to be investigative in nature"; and

Whereas, under Article 34 of the Charter of the United Nations, "The Security Council may investigate any dispute, or any situation which might lead to international friction or give rise to a dispute, in order to determine whether the continuance of the dispute or situation is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security.": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the United States to insist that the United Nations Security Council open an official investigation into the sexual violence and sexual torture committed during and after the attack on the State of Israel on October 7, 2023; and

(2) demands that the international community hold accountable those who perpetrated acts of sexual violence and sexual torture during and after that attack.

SENATE RESOLUTION 621—DESIGNATING MARCH 24TH, 2024, AS “NATIONAL WOMEN OF COLOR IN TECH DAY”

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 621

Whereas National Women of Color in Tech Day acknowledges the challenges many women of color face in the field of technology (referred to in this preamble as “tech”) and recognizes and emphasizes the importance of women of color in tech in the United States, including—

(1) Katherine Johnson, a former engineer at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(2) Marie Van Brittan Brown, who invented the first home security system; and

(3) Patricia Bath, who invented the Laserphaco Probe for the removal of cataracts;

Whereas evidence suggests that structural and social barriers in tech education, tech workforce development, the tech workforce, and venture capital investment in tech can disproportionately and negatively affect women of color;

Whereas women are underrepresented in tech, and women of color often face additional systemic barriers in the tech ecosystem specifically and in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) fields generally;

Whereas underrepresented minority students often face an opportunity gap in STEM education in the United States;

Whereas women and girls of color often face an achievement gap in science and engineering education;

Whereas women and girls overall often face a large opportunity gap in computer science;

Whereas the competitiveness of the United States in the 21st-century global economy largely depends on developing STEM-literate citizens;

Whereas the demand for professionals in tech and computing fields is expected to increase substantially over the next decade;

Whereas, as of March 2023, data showed that there were more than 750,000 open and unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas increasing the number of women of color in tech will be critical to building and maintaining a competitive tech workforce;

Whereas women of color currently make up 41 percent of the female population in the United States and are projected to make up the majority of women by 2060;

Whereas, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, women of color in the United States earned 17 percent of bachelor’s degrees and 7 percent of doctorates in STEM fields during the 2021–2022 school year;

Whereas the low number of women of color in tech positions who have not received a bachelor’s degree, but who have earned other certificates, demonstrates that women of color may not be taking sufficient advantage

of alternative pathways for reskilling in computing-related areas or may not have adequate access or exposure to these pathways;

Whereas increasing the inclusion of women of color in the science and tech sectors can provide role models who can inspire students of all backgrounds and identities, including young girls of color;

Whereas diversity in any field incorporates different experiences and ideas that can ultimately lead to more creative and pioneering solutions to the current and future problems of the United States;

Whereas a May 2020 study by McKinsey and Company shows that companies with a diverse workforce often perform better, hire more qualified employees, have more engaged employees, and are better at retaining workers than companies that do not prioritize diversity;

Whereas communities of color are underrepresented in corporate leadership roles, including in the tech sector; and

Whereas a pipeline of qualified tech candidates of color is critical for future growth, particularly as the tech industry works to improve the recruiting, hiring, and retaining of candidates and employees of color: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 24, 2024, as “National Women of Color in Tech Day”;

(2) recognizes the celebration of National Women of Color in Tech Day as a time to reflect on the many notable contributions that women of color have made to the field of technology in the United States;

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Women of Color in Tech Day with appropriate programs and activities;

(4) pledges to work to increase diversity and inclusion in the technology sector, including through robust plans to ensure recruitment, training, and retention of underrepresented minorities at all levels;

(5) commits to working to eliminate barriers to entering the technology sector faced by women of color and individuals from other underrepresented groups;

(6) reaffirms the commitment of the Senate to ensuring that all students have access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this resolution as “STEM”) education for a 21st-century economy, including computer science education in particular;

(7) supports efforts to strengthen investments in, and collaborations with, educational institutions, including community colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Asian-American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, and other minority-serving institutions, to sustain a pipeline of diverse STEM graduates ready to enter the technology sector; and

(8) urges the President to work with Congress to improve data collection, data disaggregation, and dissemination of information for greater understanding and transparency of diversity in STEM education and across the workforce of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 622—PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A SUMMONS, PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE AND TO REPORT EVIDENCE, AND ESTABLISHING RELATED PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS

MR. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 622

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SUMMONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A summons shall be issued which commands Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas to file with the Secretary of the Senate (in this resolution referred to as the “Secretary”) an answer to the articles of impeachment with respect to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas no later than 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, and thereafter to abide by, obey, and perform such orders, directions, and judgments as the Senate shall make in the premises, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States.

(b) SERVICE.—The Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate is authorized to utilize the services of the Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate or another employee of the Senate in serving the summons.

(c) NOTICE OF ANSWER.—The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives of the filing of the answer and shall provide a copy of the answer to the House of Representatives.

(d) FILING OF REPLICATION.—The Managers on the part of the House of Representatives may file with the Secretary a replication no later than 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted.

(e) NOTICE TO COUNSEL.—The Secretary shall notify counsel for Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas of the filing of a replication, and shall provide counsel with a copy.

(f) DELIVERY AND PRINTING OF ANSWER AND REPLICATION; ENTRY OF PLEA.—The Secretary shall provide the answer and the replication, if any, to the Presiding Officer of the Senate on the first day the Senate is in session after the Secretary receives them, and the Presiding Officer shall cause the answer and replication, if any, to be printed in the Senate Journal and in the Congressional Record. If a timely answer has not been filed, the Presiding Officer shall cause a plea of not guilty to be entered.

(g) PRINTING AS SENATE DOCUMENT.—The articles of impeachment, the answer, and the replication, if any, together with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States on impeachment, and the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, shall be printed under the direction of the Secretary as a Senate document.

(h) RELATION TO RULES.—The provisions of this section shall govern notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials.

(i) MOTION TO TABLE.—A motion to table the articles of impeachment shall not be in order.

SEC. 2. COMMITTEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to rule XI of the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the

Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials (in this section referred to as “rule XI”), not later than 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, the Presiding Officer shall appoint a committee of 12 Senators to perform the duties and to exercise the powers provided for in rule XI (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”).

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Majority Leader and Minority Leader, in consultation with their respective conference, shall each recommend 6 members, including a chair and vice chair, respectively, to the Presiding Officer for appointment to the committee.

(c) AUTHORITY AS A STANDING COMMITTEE.—The committee shall be deemed to be a standing committee of the Senate for the purpose of reporting to the Senate resolutions for the criminal or civil enforcement of the committee’s subpoenas or orders, and for the purpose of printing reports, hearings, and other documents for submission to the Senate under rule XI.

(d) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO QUESTIONS.—During proceedings conducted under rule XI, the chair of the committee is authorized to waive the requirement under the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials that questions by a Senator to a witness, a manager, or counsel shall be reduced to writing and put by the Presiding Officer.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the date on which all members of the committee are appointed under subsection (a), the committee shall submit to the Senate a report compiling all evidence, exhibits, and witness testimony received by the committee, which—

(1) shall include a certified copy of the transcript of the proceedings had and testimony given before the committee; and

(2) may include a statement of facts that are uncontested and a summary, with appropriate references to the record, of evidence that the parties have introduced on contested issues of fact.

(f) STAFFING AND EXPENSES.—The actual and necessary expenses of the committee, including the employment of staff at an annual rate of pay, and the employment of consultants with prior approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration at a rate not to exceed the maximum daily rate for a standing committee of the Senate, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate from the appropriation account “Miscellaneous Items” upon vouchers approved by the chair of the committee, except that no voucher shall be required to pay the salary of any employee who is compensated at an annual rate of pay.

(g) TERMINATION.—The committee shall terminate not later than 45 calendar days after the pronouncement of judgment by the Senate on the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

SEC. 3. CONVENING AS COURT OF IMPEACHMENT.

At 1 p.m. on the first day on which the Senate is in session after the date that is 90 calendar days after the date on which all members of the committee established under section 2 are appointed, the Senate shall convene as a Court of Impeachment to consider the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

SEC. 4. NOTICE.

The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives and counsel for Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas of this resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 623—TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 623

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SUMMONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 session days following the date on which the articles of impeachment with respect to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas are transmitted, pursuant to rule III of the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials (referred to in this resolution as the “Rules of Impeachment”), the Senate shall proceed to the consideration of the articles of impeachment and the Secretary of the Senate shall notify the House of Representatives of the time and place fixed for the Senate to proceed upon the impeachment of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas in the Senate Chamber.

(b) SUMMONS AND FILINGS.—Under rule VIII of the Rules of Impeachment—

(1) the summons shall be issued in the usual form to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, provided that he may have until 12 p.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, to file his answer with the Secretary of the Senate;

(2) the House of Representatives may have until 12 p.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the summons is issued under paragraph (1), to file its replication with the Secretary of the Senate;

(3) if the House of Representatives wishes to file a trial brief, it shall be filed by 10 a.m. on the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted;

(4) if Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas wishes to file a trial brief, it shall be filed by 10 a.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the summons is issued under paragraph (1); and

(5) the House of Representatives may file a rebuttal brief no later than 10 a.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin.

SEC. 2. IMPEACHMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The House of Representatives shall file its record with the Secretary of the Senate, which will consist of those publicly available materials that have been submitted to or produced by the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, including transcripts of public hearings or mark-ups and any materials printed by the House of Representatives or the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives pursuant to House Resolution 863 (118th Congress), agreed to February 13, 2024. All materials filed pursuant to this subsection shall be printed and made available to all parties.

(b) MOTIONS.—Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas and the House of Representatives shall have until 9 a.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin to file any motions permitted under the Rules of Impeachment with the exception of motions to subpoena witnesses or documents or any other evidentiary motions. Responses to any such motions shall be filed no later than 11 a.m. on the date on which impeachment pro-

ceedings begin. All materials filed pursuant to this subsection shall be filed with the Secretary and be printed and made available to all parties. Arguments on such motions shall begin at 12 p.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin, and each side may determine the number of persons to make its presentation, following which the Senate shall deliberate, if so ordered under the Rules of Impeachment, and vote on any such motions.

(c) PRESENTATIONS BY PARTIES.—Following the disposition of such motions, or if no motions are made, then the House of Representatives shall make its presentation in support of the articles of impeachment for a period of time not to exceed 16 hours, over up to 2 session days. If no motions are made under subsection (b), the House of Representatives shall begin its presentation at 12 p.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin. Following the House of Representatives’ presentation, Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas shall make his presentation for a period not to exceed 16 hours, over up to 2 session days. Each side may determine the number of persons to make its presentation. Each side shall have the right to decide for how many hours it shall make its presentation on each of the up to 2 session days allotted to it, except that neither side shall make its presentation for more than 8 hours on any single session day. The parties’ presentations need not be limited to argument from the record described in subsection (a).

(d) PERIOD OF QUESTIONING.—Upon the conclusion of the period allotted for presentations by the parties as provided under subsection (c), Senators may question the parties for a period of time not to exceed 4 hours over not more than 1 session day.

(e) ARGUMENT AND DELIBERATION.—Upon conclusion of the period allotted for Senators’ questions as provided under subsection (d), there shall be 2 hours of argument, equally divided between the parties, followed by deliberation by the Senate, if so ordered under the Rules of Impeachment, on the question of whether it shall be in order to consider and debate under the Rules of Impeachment any motion to subpoena witnesses or documents. The Senate, without any intervening action, motion, or amendment, shall then decide by the yeas and nays whether it shall be in order to consider and debate under the Rules of Impeachment any motion to subpoena witnesses or documents. Following the disposition of that question, other motions provided under the Rules of Impeachment shall be in order.

(f) WITNESSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate agrees to allow either the House of Representatives or Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas to subpoena witnesses, the witnesses shall first be deposed and the parties shall be allowed other appropriate discovery. The Senate shall decide after deposition and other appropriate discovery which, if any, witnesses shall testify, pursuant to the Rules of Impeachment. No testimony shall be admissible in the Senate unless the parties have had the opportunity to depose such witnesses and to conduct other appropriate discovery.

(2) RULES.—If the Senate agrees to allow either party to subpoena witnesses, provisions for the admission of evidence, issuance of subpoenas, arrangements for depositions, other appropriate discovery, testimony by witnesses in the Senate, if such testimony is ordered by the Senate, and any related matters are to be determined by subsequent resolution of the Senate.

(g) MOTION TO ADMIT EVIDENCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate decides that no party shall be permitted to subpoena witnesses pursuant to subsection (f), the House of Representatives shall be recognized to

make a motion to admit into evidence the materials relied upon by the House of Representatives during the trial. The House of Representatives shall be recognized to make such a motion, however, only if it has disclosed to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas all materials it will move to admit into evidence at least 48 hours before making said motion. Arguments on the motion shall be limited to 1 hour equally divided. The Senate, without any intervening action, motion, or amendment, shall then decide by the yeas and nays whether to admit into evidence such materials. If a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, shall vote in the affirmative, the materials shall be admitted into evidence. If a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, shall vote in the negative, the materials shall not be admitted into evidence. Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas shall then be recognized to make a motion to admit into evidence the materials relied upon by him during the trial. Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas shall be recognized to make such a motion, however, only if he has disclosed to the House of Representatives all materials he will move to admit into evidence at least 48 hours before making said motion. Arguments on the motion shall be limited to 1 hour equally divided. The Senate, without any intervening action, motion, or amendment, shall then decide by the yeas and nays whether to admit into evidence such materials. If a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, shall vote in the affirmative, the materials shall be admitted into evidence. If a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, shall vote in the negative, the materials shall not be admitted into evidence.

(2) EXCEPTION TO DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.—The disclosure requirements established under paragraph (1) shall not apply to evidence discovered by the movant after the disclosure deadline, so long as the movant declares in writing that the movant was unaware of such evidence until after the disclosure deadline, and that such evidence could not reasonably have been discovered until after the disclosure deadline.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The admission of any evidence pursuant to this subsection shall not be treated as a concession by any party as to the truth of the matter asserted by the parties, and the Senate as the trier of fact shall decide the weight to be given such evidence.

(h) CONVENING ON SUNDAY.—Unless the Senate shall have already voted on the articles of impeachment, the Senate shall convene as a Court of Impeachment at 2 p.m. on the Sunday following the date on which impeachment proceedings begin, notwithstanding rule III of the Rules of Impeachment.

(i) FINAL ARGUMENTS.—Immediately upon the conclusion of any action by the Senate under subsection (g), or immediately upon the next day on which the Senate reconvenes as a Court of Impeachment after the conclusion of such action, the Senate shall proceed to final arguments as provided in the Rules of Impeachment, waiving the 2-person rule contained in rule XXII of the Rules of Impeachment. Such arguments shall not exceed 4 hours, equally divided between the parties.

(j) VOTE.—At the conclusion of final arguments as provided under subsection (i), the Senate, without intervening action, except for deliberation if so ordered under the Rules of Impeachment, shall vote on the articles of impeachment.

SENATE RESOLUTION 624—TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 624

SECTION 1. SUMMONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 session days following the date on which the articles of impeachment with respect to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas are transmitted, pursuant to rule III of the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials (referred to in this resolution as the “Rules of Impeachment”), the Senate shall proceed to the consideration of the articles of impeachment and the Secretary of the Senate shall notify the House of Representatives of the time and place fixed for the Senate to proceed upon the impeachment of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas in the Senate Chamber.

(b) SUMMONS AND FILINGS.—Under rule VIII of the Rules of Impeachment—

(1) the summons shall be issued in the usual form to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, provided that he may have until 12 p.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, to file his answer with the Secretary of the Senate;

(2) the House of Representatives may have until 12 p.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the summons is issued under paragraph (1), to file its replication with the Secretary of the Senate;

(3) if the House of Representatives wishes to file a trial brief, it shall be filed by 10 a.m. on the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted;

(4) if Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas wishes to file a trial brief, it shall be filed by 10 a.m. on the date that is 7 session days after the date on which the summons is issued under paragraph (1); and

(5) the House of Representatives may file a rebuttal brief no later than 10 a.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin.

SEC. 2. IMPEACHMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) HOUSE RECORDS.—The House of Representatives shall file its record with the Secretary of the Senate, which will consist of those publicly available materials that have been submitted to or produced by the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, including transcripts of public hearings or mark-ups and any materials printed by the House of Representatives or the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives pursuant to House Resolution 863 (118th Congress), agreed to February 13, 2024.

(2) ADMISSION INTO EVIDENCE.—Materials in the record described in paragraph (1) will be admitted into evidence subject to any hearsay, evidentiary, or other objections that Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas may make after opening presentations are concluded.

(3) AVAILABILITY TO PARTIES.—All materials filed pursuant to this subsection shall be printed and made available to all parties.

(b) MOTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) FILING.—Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas and the House of Representatives shall have until 9 a.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin to file any motions permitted under the Rules of Impeachment with the exception of motions to subpoena witnesses or documents or any other evidentiary motions.

(B) RESPONSES.—Responses to any motions filed under subparagraph (A) shall be filed no later than 11 a.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin.

(C) AVAILABILITY TO PARTIES.—All materials filed pursuant to this paragraph shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate and be printed and made available to all parties.

(2) ARGUMENTS.—Arguments on any motions filed under paragraph (1) shall begin at 1 p.m. on the date on which impeachment proceedings begin, and each side may determine the number of persons to make its presentation, following which the Senate shall deliberate, if so ordered under the Rules of Impeachment, and vote on any such motions.

(c) IMPEACHMENT.—

(1) PRESENTATIONS BY PARTIES.—

(A) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Following the disposition of such motions, or if no motions are made, then the House of Representatives shall make its presentation in support of the articles of impeachment for a period of time not to exceed 24 hours, over up to 3 session days.

(B) SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—Following the House of Representatives’ presentation, Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas shall make his presentation for a period not to exceed 24 hours, over up to 3 session days.

(C) NUMBER OF PERSONS.—Each side may determine the number of persons to make its presentation.

(2) PERIOD OF QUESTIONING.—Upon the conclusion of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas’s presentation, Senators may question the parties for a period of time not to exceed 16 hours.

(3) ARGUMENT AND DELIBERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the conclusion of questioning by the Senate, there shall be 4 hours of argument by the parties, equally divided, followed by deliberation by the Senate, if so ordered under the Rules of Impeachment, on the question of whether it shall be in order to consider and debate under the Rules of Impeachment any motion to subpoena witnesses or documents.

(B) MOTION TO SUBPOENA WITNESSES OR DOCUMENTS.—The Senate, without any intervening action, motion, or amendment, shall then decide by the yeas and nays whether it shall be in order to consider and debate under the Rules of Impeachment any motion to subpoena witnesses or documents.

(4) OTHER MOTIONS.—Following the disposition of the question under paragraph (3), other motions provided under the Rules of Impeachment shall be in order.

(5) WITNESSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate agrees to allow either the House of Representatives or Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas to subpoena witnesses, the witnesses shall first be deposed and the Senate shall decide after deposition which witnesses shall testify, pursuant to the Rules of Impeachment.

(B) DEPOSITION REQUIREMENT.—No testimony shall be admissible in the Senate unless the parties have had an opportunity to depose such witnesses.

(6) VOTE.—At the conclusion of the deliberations by the Senate, the Senate shall vote on each article of impeachment.

SENATE RESOLUTION 625—RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MARCH 17 THROUGH MARCH 23, 2024, AS “NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK” AND ENCOURAGING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF POISONING AND PROMOTE POISON PREVENTION

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 625

Whereas the designation of National Poison Prevention Week was first authorized by Congress and President Kennedy in 1961, in Public Law 87-319 (75 Stat. 681);

Whereas National Poison Prevention Week occurs during the third full week of March each year;

Whereas, in 2022, poison centers responded to more than 2,000,000 human exposure cases and information requests, including—

- (1) opioid and fentanyl misuse;
- (2) suicide attempts, including those by adolescents and teens; and
- (3) accidental edible cannabis ingestion;

Whereas poison centers are on the front lines assisting throughout the United States with emergency disasters in our communities, including the East Palestine, Ohio, train derailment;

Whereas poison control centers responded to COVID-19 related surges by conducting poison safety and poisoning prevention outreach in a virtual format during the COVID-19 pandemic and handled increases in cases relating to hand sanitizer and household cleaning products;

Whereas America’s Poison Centers works with the 55 poison control centers in the United States to track—

- (1) commonly used household and workplace products that can cause poisoning; and
- (2) poisonings and the sources of those poisonings;

Whereas the National Poison Data System contains over 466,000 products, ranging from viral and bacterial agents to commercial chemical and drug products;

Whereas local poison control centers save the people in medical costs;

Whereas America’s Poison Centers and poison control centers partner with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and State, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments to monitor occurrences of environmental, biological, and emerging threats in communities across the United States, including food poisoning, botulism, and vaping-associated lung injury;

Whereas, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, in 2020, an estimated 61,500 children under the age of 5 were treated in emergency rooms due to unintended poisonings;

Whereas, in 2021, children younger than 6 years of age constituted 41 percent of all poison exposures;

Whereas, from 2012 to 2022, the number of adolescents 10 to 19 years of age seen for a suicide attempt has nearly doubled and that has disproportionately affected female adolescents;

Whereas, in 2022, more than 90,000 children 19 years of age and younger were treated in an emergency room due to unintended pediatric poisoning and more than 90 percent of those incidents occurred in the home, most often with acetaminophen, edible cannabis, melatonin, ibuprofen, laundry packets,

bleach, diphenhydramine, blood pressure medications, or sedatives or anti-anxiety medication;

Whereas an analysis of the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System shows—

(1) children experienced an increased incidence of ingestion of dangerous foreign bodies like button batteries and high-powered magnets during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(2) evidence that parents and caregivers sought care for foreign body ingestions either because they knew the relative danger of the object ingested or because they sought advice from available resources like the poison control centers;

Whereas 107,622 deaths due to drug overdose were reported in the United States in 2021, and the majority of those cases, approximately 75 percent, involved an opioid, primarily synthetic opioids like fentanyl;

Whereas, in 2021, the most common substances that individuals called the poison helpline about were prescription and non-prescription pain relievers, household cleaning substances, cosmetics and personal care products, and antidepressants;

Whereas pain medications lead the list of the most common substances implicated in adult poison exposures and are the single most frequent cause of fatalities reported to America’s Poison Centers;

Whereas poison control centers issue guidance and provide support to individuals, including individuals who experience medication and dosing errors;

Whereas more than 40 percent of calls to the poison helpline are from individuals 20 years of age or older, and a common reason for those calls is therapeutic errors, including questions regarding drug interactions, incorrect dosing route, timing of doses, and double doses;

Whereas active, curious children will often investigate and sometimes ingest things they find, and every day over 300 children between the ages of 0 to 19 are treated for accidental poisoning in the United States;

Whereas America’s Poison Centers engages in community outreach by educating the public on poison safety and poisoning prevention and provides educational resources, materials, and guidelines to educate the public on poisoning prevention;

Whereas individuals can reach a poison control center from anywhere in the United States by calling the poison help line at 1-800-222-1222 or accessing PoisonHelp.org;

Whereas, despite regulations of the Consumer Product Safety Commission requiring that a child-resistant package be designed or constructed to be significantly difficult for children under 5 years of age to open or obtain a harmful amount of the contents, children can still open child-resistant packages within a reasonable time; and

Whereas, each year during National Poison Prevention Week, the Federal Government assesses the progress made by the Federal Government in saving lives and reaffirms the national commitment of the Federal Government to preventing injuries and deaths from poisoning; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the week of March 17 through March 23, 2024, as “National Poison Prevention Week”;

(2) expresses gratitude for the people who operate or support poison control centers in their local communities;

(3) expresses gratitude for frontline workers who supported poison prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic;

(4) supports efforts and resources to provide poison prevention guidance or emergency assistance in response to poisonings; and

(5) encourages—

(A) the people of the United States to educate their communities and families about poison safety and poisoning prevention; and

(B) health care providers to practice and promote poison safety and poisoning prevention.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31—RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL ACCESS TO MANY FEDERALLY FUNDED FACILITIES FOR ALL PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. KELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution prevents Congress from making any law respecting an establishment of religion, prohibiting the free exercise of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech, the freedom of the press, the right to peaceably assemble, or to petition for a governmental redress of grievances, and was adopted on December 15, 1791, as 1 of the 10 amendments that constitute the Bill of Rights;

Whereas the Bill of Rights, specifically the First Amendment to the Constitution, calls for the right of all persons to peaceably assemble, and to this end, all persons, regardless of their physical ability, shall be offered equal opportunity to access all federally funded, in whole or part, amenities;

Whereas, in the 33 years since Congress enacted the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), there have been unprecedented advances in all forms of technology, typified by automatic doors;

Whereas, in 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that 1 in 4 adults, or 61,000,000 people, have a disability;

Whereas disability is a universal concern, as an aging population increases the incidence of frailty and disability;

Whereas, as significant advances in medical treatment result in increased survival rates, the incidence of disability increases;

Whereas, in 2022, the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that 5,400,000 veterans received service-related disability benefits;

Whereas, in 2023, the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that the unemployment rate of persons with a disability was twice that of nondisabled adults;

Whereas, in 2023, the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that people of color have the highest disability rates in the United States;

Whereas Congress enacted the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) to ensure that certain federally funded facilities are designed and constructed to be accessible to people with disabilities;

Whereas the United States Access Board (referred to in this preamble as the “Board”) recently issued a final rule on accessibility guidelines for pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way that addresses various issues, including access for blind pedestrians at street crossings, wheelchair access to on-street parking, and various constraints posed by space limitations, roadway design practices, slope, and terrain;

Whereas the new guidelines of the Board cover pedestrian access to sidewalks and streets, including crosswalks, curb ramps,

street furnishings, pedestrian signals, parking, and other components of public rights-of-way;

Whereas the aim of the Board in developing new guidelines is to ensure that access for persons with disabilities is provided wherever a pedestrian way is newly built or altered, and that the same degree of convenience, connection, and safety afforded the public generally is available to pedestrians with disabilities;

Whereas, once the new guidelines developed by the Board are adopted by the Department of Justice, they will become enforceable standards under title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.); and

Whereas the United States was founded on principles of equality and freedom, and those principles require that all people, including people with disabilities, are able to engage as equal members of society; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes that people in the United States with disabilities experience barriers to access on a daily basis;

(2) reaffirms its support of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), and encourages full compliance with those Acts; and

(3) pledges to make universal and inclusive design a guiding principle for all infrastructure bills and projects and will continue working to identify and remove the barriers that prevent all people of the United States from having equal access to the services provided by the Federal Government.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 32—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARPER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 32

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility was founded in 2009 to honor the achievements and contributions of the transgender community;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is designed to be encompassing of a large community of diverse individuals;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is a time to celebrate the lives and achievements of transgender individuals around the world, and to recognize the bravery it takes to live openly and authentically;

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is also a time to raise awareness of the discrimination and violence that the transgender community still faces, which make it difficult and even unsafe or fatal for many transgender individuals to be visible;

Whereas the transgender community has suffered oppression disproportionately in many ways, including—

(1) discrimination in employment and in the workplace;

(2) discrimination in health care and housing;

(3) discrimination in access to public services;

(4) discrimination in educational institutions; and

(5) violence;

Whereas forms of anti-transgender oppression are exacerbated for transgender individuals of color, individuals with limited resources, immigrants, individuals living with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, and transgender youth;

Whereas a record number of anti-transgender State bills have been introduced in recent years, including more than 700 bills in 2021, 2022, and 2023 combined, targeting areas such as—

(1) education, including by prohibiting school staff from acknowledging or respecting transgender pupils, colleagues, and family members, and barring transgender students from accessing gender-appropriate programs and facilities;

(2) health care, including both medically necessary transition-related medical care and general health care services;

(3) public accommodations, such as safe access to public restrooms; and

(4) identification documents, including by restricting the ability to realign or correct birth certificates and other forms of identification;

Whereas the transgender community has made it clear that transgender individuals will not be erased and deserve to be accorded all of the rights and opportunities made available to all;

Whereas, before the creation of the United States, Indigenous two-spirit, transgender individuals existed across North America in many Native American communities, with specific terms in their own languages for these members of their communities and the social and spiritual roles they fulfilled, and while many were lost or actively suppressed by the efforts of missionaries, government agents, boarding schools, and settlers, two-spirit individuals have promoted increased public awareness in recent decades;

Whereas transgender individuals continue to tell their stories and push for full equity under the law;

Whereas the civil-rights struggle has been strengthened and inspired by the leadership of the transgender community;

Whereas transgender individuals in the United States have made significant strides in elected office and political representation;

Whereas at least 31 States and the District of Columbia have at least 1 transgender elected official at the State or municipal level;

Whereas there are at least 18 transgender, gender-nonconforming, or nonbinary elected officials in State legislatures, including—

- (1) Lorena Austin;
- (2) Gerri Cannon;
- (3) Brion Curran;
- (4) Emily Dievendorf;
- (5) Leigh Finke;
- (6) S.J. Howell;
- (7) Dominique Johnson;
- (8) Sarah McBride;
- (9) Samantha Montano;
- (10) Alissandra Murray;
- (11) DeShanna Neal;
- (12) Danica Roem;
- (13) James Roesener;
- (14) Abigail Salisbury;
- (15) Taylor Small;
- (16) Izzy Smith-Wade-El;
- (17) Brianna Titone; and
- (18) Mauree Turner;

Whereas voters in the State of Virginia elected Danica Roem to be the first openly transgender State legislator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of Delaware elected Sarah McBride as the first openly transgender State senator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of Oklahoma elected Mauree Turner as the first openly nonbinary State legislator in the United States;

Whereas voters in the State of New Hampshire elected James Roesener as the first openly transgender man State legislator in the United States;

Whereas 6 States have at least 1 transgender or gender-non-conforming jurist on the bench;

Whereas Admiral Rachel L. Levine, M.D., was the first openly transgender Federal official confirmed by the Senate and is the highest ranking openly transgender Federal Government official in the history of the United States;

Whereas more transgender individuals are appearing in movies, on television, and in all forms of media, raising awareness of their experiences and the importance of living authentically;

Whereas transgender individuals have created culture and history as artists, musicians, organizers, and leaders; and

Whereas International Transgender Day of Visibility is a time to celebrate the transgender community around the world; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of International Transgender Day of Visibility;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe International Transgender Day of Visibility with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities;

(3) celebrates the accomplishments and leadership of transgender individuals; and

(4) recognizes the bravery of the transgender community as it fights for equal dignity and respect.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1781. Mr. TUBERVILLE proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

SA 1782. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1783. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1784. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1785. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1786. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. Kaine, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1787. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1788. Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. Kaine, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SINEMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1789. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1790. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1791. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1790 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1792. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1793. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1792 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1794. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1793 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 1792 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1795. Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Ms. ERNST) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1796. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1797. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1798. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1799. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1800. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1799 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1801. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1802. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1801 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1803. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1802 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 1801 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1804. Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. ERNST) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, supra.

SA 1805. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1806. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1807. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1808. Mr. LEE (for Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Ms. ERNST)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. Lee to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1809. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1810. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her

to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1811. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1812. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1813. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1814. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1815. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1816. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1817. Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1818. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3613, to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1781. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. **PROHIBITION ON FUNDING ENTITIES THAT PERMIT CERTAIN STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN GIRLS' OR WOMEN'S ATHLETICS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—None of the funds appropriated under any division of this Act may be used by a State, local educational agency, or institution of higher education, that permits any student whose biological sex (recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology at birth) is male to participate in an athletic program or activity designated for girls or women.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given the term in section 101 or 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001, 1002).

(2) **LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY, STATE.**—The terms "local educational agency" and "State" have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

SA 1782. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. (a) **IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT.**—Subsection

(e) of section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(e) **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.**—No credit shall be allowed under this section to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of the taxpayer (or the taxpayer's spouse, in the case of a joint return) and of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term 'social security number' means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued—

“(1) to a citizen of the United States or pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act, and

“(2) before the due date for such return.”

(b) **TEMPORARY RULE.**—Paragraph (7) of section 24(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “of the taxpayer (or the taxpayer's spouse, in the case of a joint return) and” before “of such child”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

(2) **TEMPORARY RULE.**—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SA 1783. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. Notwithstanding any other provision of any division of this Act, no funds made available under any division of this Act may be used to carry out any program of the Small Business Administration that—

(1) asks the owner of a business entity applying for assistance under the program to provide the race or ethnicity of that owner; and

(2) as part of determining eligibility for assistance under the program, considers whether an applicant for that assistance (including the owner of a business entity applying for that assistance) is socially disadvantaged.

SA 1784. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts appropriated under this Act may be used to issue or implement—

(1) as a final rule the rule proposed by the Department of Education relating title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) and described under the heading “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance: Sex-Related Eligibility Criteria for Male and Female Athletic Teams” (88 Fed. Reg. 22860; published April 13, 2023), or

(2) any rule similar in substance to the proposed rule described in paragraph (1) that relates to eligibility criteria for participation on athletic teams.

SA 1785. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by any division of this Act may be used to fund the Direct File Pilot Program of the Internal Revenue Service.

SA 1786. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. Kaine, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CASIDY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 426, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following:

SEC. 552. EXEMPTION OF ALIENS WORKING AS FISH PROCESSORS FROM THE NUMERICAL LIMITATION ON H-2B NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(g)(10) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(10)) is amended—

(1) by striking ‘‘The numerical limitations of paragraph (1)(B)’’ and inserting ‘‘(A) The numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B)’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(B)(i) The numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to any non-immigrant alien issued a visa or otherwise provided status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) who is employed (or has received an offer of employment)—

‘‘(I) as a fish roe processor, a fish roe technician, or a supervisor of fish roe processing; or

‘‘(II) as a fish processor.

‘‘(ii) As used in clause (i)—

‘‘(I) the term ‘fish’ means fresh or saltwater finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of aquatic animal life, including the roe of such animals, other than marine mammals and birds; and

‘‘(II) the term ‘processor’ means any person engaged in the processing of fish, including handling, storing, preparing, heading, eviscerating, shucking, freezing, changing into different market forms, manufacturing, preserving, packing, labeling, dockside unloading, holding, and all other processing activities.”

(b) REPEAL.—Section 14006 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-287) is repealed.

SA 1787. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to support the inclusion of the fair market value of land, buildings, livestock, unharvested crops, and machinery actively used in investment farms or agricultural or commercial activities in calculating the net worth of a farm

for purposes of determining a student aid index under part F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk et seq.), as described in the Department of Education’s Dear Colleague letter numbered DCL ID: GEN-23-11, dated August 04, 2023.

SA 1788. Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. Kaine, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SINEMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH IMMIGRATION WARRANT ISSUANCE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ‘‘Improving Public Safety Through Immigration Warrant Issuance Act’’.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1351 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 287 the following:

“SEC. 287A. AUTHORIZATION OF FEDERAL COURTS TO ISSUE ARREST WARRANTS.

“(a) AUTHORIZATION OF FEDERAL COURTS TO ISSUE ARREST WARRANTS.—Upon receiving an application from a Federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the Federal Government, a magistrate judge is authorized to issue a warrant to seize an alien located within the district over which the magistrate judge has jurisdiction if there is probable cause to believe that the alien—

“(1) is removable (as defined in section 240(e)(2)); and

“(2)(A) has been charged with, or convicted of, a felony;

“(B) has been charged with, or convicted of, a crime of violence, including any crime that endangers the safety or welfare of children; or

“(C) is a threat to national security.

“(b) ENSURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF WARRANTS FOR PERSONS IN STATE OR LOCAL CUSTODY.—

“(1) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—If such actions are reasonably necessary to ensure the effectiveness of an arrest warrant issued pursuant to subsection (a), a magistrate judge may order the State or local jurisdiction with custody over the alien subject to such warrant—

“(A) to transfer the alien to Federal custody;

“(B) to notify the Federal Government of the impending release of the alien to facilitate such transfer; and

“(C) to hold the alien for such time as may be necessary to facilitate such transfer, which may not exceed 48 hours.

“(2) TIMING OF ORDER.—An order described in paragraph (1) may be issued contemporaneously with an arrest warrant issued pursuant to subsection (a) if, based on reliable evidence, a State or local jurisdiction with custody over the alien subject to such warrant is unlikely to assist in effectuating the warrant.

“(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed—

“(A) to limit any inherent or statutory power of the Federal courts to issue orders in aid of their jurisdiction, including writs of habeas corpus and writs authorized under section 1651 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘All Writs Act’); or

“(B) to interfere with the Department of Homeland Security’s ability to issue detainer requests, as authorized by law.

“(c) ISSUING THE WARRANT.—Each warrant issued pursuant to this section shall—

“(1) be issued to an officer authorized to execute it;

“(2) identify the alien to be seized and designate the magistrate judge to whom the warrant shall be returned;

“(3) require the officer to submit the issued warrant to any State or locality with custody over the alien subject to the warrant as quickly as practicable; and

“(4) be returned to the magistrate judge designated in the warrant.

“(d) PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING A WARRANT.—

“(1) EX PARTE PROCEEDINGS.—Warrant proceedings under this section may be conducted ex parte.

“(2) WARRANT ON AN AFFIDAVIT.—When a Federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the Federal Government presents an affidavit in support of a warrant, the magistrate judge may—

“(A) require the affiant to appear personally before the judge; and

“(B) examine under oath the affiant and any witness produced by the affiant.

“(3) RECORDING TESTIMONY.—Testimony taken in support of a warrant shall be recorded by a court reporter or by a suitable recording device. The magistrate judge shall file the transcript or recording with the clerk, along with any related affidavit.

“(4) REQUESTING A WARRANT BY TELEPHONIC OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS.—In accordance with rule 4.1 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, a magistrate judge may issue a warrant based on information communicated by telephone or other reliable electronic means.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ATTORNEY FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘attorney for the Federal Government’ means an attorney representing the Federal Government, as authorized by the Attorney General.

“(2) CRIME OF VIOLENCE.—The term ‘crime of violence’ has the meaning given such term in section 16 of title 18, United States Code.

“(3) FELONY.—The term ‘felony’ means a crime classified as a felony in the convicting jurisdiction, excluding Federal, State, or local offenses for which an essential element was the alien’s immigration status.

“(4) MAGISTRATE JUDGE.—The term ‘magistrate judge’ means a United States magistrate judge appointed pursuant to section 631 of title 28, United States Code.”.

“(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 287 the following:

“Sec. 287A. Authorization of Federal courts to issue arrest warrants.”.

SA 1789. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. No funds made available under any division of this Act may be made available, directly or indirectly, to—

(1) the Wuhan Institute of Virology located in the People’s Republic of China; or

(2) the EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. located in New York, or any subsidiary thereof.

SA 1790. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and

Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1791. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1790 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “1 day” and insert “2 days”.

SA 1792. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 3 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1793. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1792 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “3 days” and insert “4 days”.

SA 1794. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1793 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 1792 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO DENY TRANSFERS OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, AND FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES LICENSES AND PERMITS TO TERRORISTS.

(a) AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the procedures under this section, and without regard to section 842, 843, section 922(g) or (n), or section 923 of title 18, United States Code, the Attorney General may deny the transfer of a firearm, not later than 3 business days after a licensee under chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, contacts the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901), deny the transfer of an explosive, or deny the issuance of a Federal firearms or explosives license or permit, if either of the following are met:

(A) NO FLY LIST.—The Attorney General determines that the transferee or applicant—

(i) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(ii) based on credible information, poses—

(I) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism or domestic terrorism with respect to an aircraft (including a threat of piracy, or a threat to airline, passenger, or civil aviation security);

(II) a threat of committing an act of domestic terrorism with respect to the homeland;

(III) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism against any United States Government facility abroad and associated or supporting personnel, including United States embassies, consulates and missions, military installations, United States ships, United States aircraft, or other auxiliary craft owned or leased by the United States Government; or

(IV) a threat of engaging in or conducting a violent act of terrorism and is operationally capable of doing so.

(B) SELECTEE LIST.—The Attorney General determines that the transferee or applicant—

(i) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(ii) based on credible information, is—

(I) a member of a terrorist organization (including a foreign terrorist organization designated pursuant to a statute or Executive order); and

(II) associated with terrorist activity, unless information exists that demonstrates that the application of secondary screening to such individual is not necessary.

(2) NICS.—Solely for purposes of sections 922(t) (1), (2), (5), and (6) of title 18, United States Code, and section 103(g) of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901(g)), a denial by the Attorney General under paragraph (1) shall be treated as equivalent to a determination that receipt of a firearm would violate subsection (g) or (n) of section 922 of title 18, United States Code. During the 3-business-day period beginning when a licensee under chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, contacts the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901), and notwithstanding section 922(t)(2) of title 18, United States Code, the Attorney General may delay assigning a unique identification number to a transfer of a firearm in order to determine whether the transferee or applicant meets the requirements under paragraph (1).

(b) NOTIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES TRANSFERS TO KNOWN OR SUSPECTED TERRORIST.—The Attorney General and Federal, State, and local law enforcement shall be immediately notified, as appropriate, of any request to transfer a firearm or explosive to a person who is, or within the previous 5 years was, identified in the Terrorist Screening Database maintained by the Terrorist Screening Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(c) REVIEW OF DENIAL.—

(1) REMEDIAL PROCEDURES AND PETITION FOR REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who seeks to challenge a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1) may—

(i) pursue the remedial procedures under section 103(g) of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901(g)); or

(ii) file a petition for review and any claims related to that petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the district court of the United States for the judicial district in which the individual resides.

(B) EXHAUSTION NOT REQUIRED.—A petitioner is not required to exhaust the remedial procedures authorized under clause (i) of subparagraph (A) before filing a petition for review under clause (ii) of subparagraph (A).

(C) PROCEDURES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General may promulgate regulations governing proceedings under subparagraph (A)(i) to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information that reasonably could be expected to result in damage to national security or ongoing law enforcement operations.

(2) DEADLINES FOR FILING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a petition for review under paragraph (1)(A)(ii), and any claims related to that petition, shall be filed not later than the earlier of—

(i) 1 year after the petitioner receives actual notice of the reason for the denial by the Attorney General; or

(ii) 5 years after the petitioner receives notice of the denial by the Attorney General.

(B) EXCEPTION.—The district court in which a petition for review is to be filed under paragraph (1)(A)(ii) may allow the petition to be filed after the deadline specified in subparagraph (A) only if there is good cause for not filing by that deadline.

(3) AUTHORITY OF DISTRICT COURTS.—The district court in which a petition for review is filed under paragraph (1)(A)(ii)—

(A) shall have—

(i) jurisdiction to decide all relevant questions of law and fact; and

(ii) exclusive jurisdiction to affirm, amend, modify, or set aside any part of the denial of the Attorney General that is the subject of the petition for review; and

(B) may order the Attorney General to conduct further proceedings.

(4) EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No district court of the United States or court of appeals of the United States shall have jurisdiction to consider the lawfulness or constitutionality of this section except pursuant to a petition for review under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii).

(B) NONCITIZENS.—No district court of the United States or court of appeals of the United States shall have jurisdiction to hear any claim by an individual who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States related to or arising out of a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1).

(d) REQUIREMENT FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND PROCEDURES FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following procedures shall apply with respect to a petition for review filed in a district court under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii):

(1) The United States shall file with the court an administrative record, which shall consist of—

(A) the information the Attorney General relied upon in denying the transfer or application;

(B) a summary of known material mitigation information;

(C) any information the petitioner has submitted pursuant to any administrative process; and

(D) any information determined relevant by the United States.

(2) The petitioner may file with the court any information determined relevant by the petitioner.

(B) With leave of the court, the United States may supplement the administrative record with additional information.

(3) All information in the administrative record that is not classified and is not otherwise privileged or subject to statutory protections shall be provided to the petitioner.

(4) No discovery shall be permitted, unless the court shall determine extraordinary circumstances require discovery in the interests of justice.

(5) Sensitive security information contained in the administrative record may only

be provided to petitioners counsel, pursuant to a protective order.

(6)(A) The administrative record may include classified information, which the United States shall submit to the court in camera and ex parte. The court shall review all classified information in camera and ex parte unless it enters an order under paragraph (C).

(B) The United States shall notify the petitioner if the administrative record filed under paragraph (1) contains classified information.

(C) The court is authorized to determine the extent to which cleared counsel shall be permitted to access classified information necessary to protect the due process rights of a petitioner and enter an appropriate order.

(D)(i) If the court enters an order under subparagraph (C) providing for the disclosure of information and the United States files with the court an affidavit of the Attorney General objecting to the disclosure, the court shall order that the information not be disclosed.

(ii) If information is not disclosed under clause (i), the court shall enter such an order as the interests of justice require, which may include an order quashing the denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1).

(iii) An order under subparagraph (C) or clause (ii) of this subparagraph shall be subject to review by a court of appeals pursuant to section 1292 of title 28, United States Code.

(iv) An order under clause (ii) shall be administratively stayed for 7 days.

(v) The functions and duties of the Attorney General under this subparagraph—

(I) may be exercised by the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Attorney General, or by an Assistant Attorney General designated by the Attorney General for such purpose; and

(II) may not be delegated to any other official.

(E) Any information disclosed under subparagraph (C) shall be subject to an appropriate protective order.

(7)(A) The administrative record may include information obtained or derived from an order issued under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), without regard to subsections (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of section 106 (50 U.S.C. 1806), subsections (d), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of section 305 (50 U.S.C. 1825), subsections (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of section 405 (50 U.S.C. 1845), and section 706 (50 U.S.C. 1881e) of that Act. If the United States intends to use such information against an aggrieved person (as defined in section 101, 301, or 401 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801, 1821, and 1841)), it shall provide in camera and ex parte notice to the court concerning such use.

(B) If the court receives a notice under subparagraph (A), the court shall review, in camera and ex parte, the order described in that subparagraph and any other materials that may be submitted by the United States.

(C) If the court determines that the order described in subparagraph (A) was not lawfully authorized, or the information was not obtained in conformity with the order, it shall exclude such information from consideration as part of the administrative record.

(8) Any classified information, sensitive security information, law enforcement sensitive information, or information that is otherwise privileged or subject to statutory protections, that is part of the administrative record, or cited by the court or the parties, shall be treated by the court and the parties consistent with the provisions of this subsection, and shall be sealed and preserved in the records of the court to be made avail-

able in the event of further proceedings. In no event shall such information be released as part of the public record.

(9) The court shall award reasonable attorney fees to a petitioner who is a prevailing party in an action under this section.

(10) After the expiration of the time to seek further review, or the conclusion of further proceedings, the court shall return the administrative record, including any and all copies, to the United States. All privileged information or other information in the possession of counsel for the petitioner that was provided by the United States under a protective order shall be returned to the United States, or the counsel for the petitioner shall certify its destruction, including any and all copies.

(e) SCOPE OF REVIEW.—The district court shall quash any denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1), unless the United States demonstrates, based on the administrative record, on a de novo review of fact and law—

(1) that the transferee or applicant—

(A) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(B) based on credible information, poses—

(i) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism or domestic terrorism with respect to an aircraft (including a threat of piracy, or a threat to airline, passenger, or civil aviation security);

(ii) a threat of committing an act of domestic terrorism with respect to the homeland;

(iii) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism against any United States Government facility abroad and associated or supporting personnel, including United States embassies, consulates and missions, military installations, United States ships, United States aircraft, or other auxiliary craft owned or leased by the United States Government; or

(iv) a threat of engaging in or conducting a violent act of terrorism and is operationally capable of doing so; or

(2) that the transferee or applicant—

(A) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(B) based on credible information—

(i) is a member of a terrorist organization (including a foreign terrorist organization) designated pursuant to a statute or Executive order; and

(ii) is associated with terrorist activity, unless information exists that demonstrates that the application of secondary screening to such individual is not necessary.

(f) EFFECT OF QUASHING.—If the district court quashes a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General shall—

(1) for a denial of the transfer of a firearm, cause a unique identifier to issue pursuant to section 922(t)(2) of title 18, United States Code, not later than 3 days after the issuance of the order under subsection (e); and

(2) for a denial of a license or permit, expeditiously issue a license or permit under chapter 40 or 44 of title 18, United States Code, as applicable.

(g) REVIEW OF DECISION OF DISTRICT COURT.—A final decision of a district court

under this section shall be subject to review by a court of appeals in accordance with section 1291 of title 28, United States Code.

(h) EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES.—The remedial procedures and a petition for review authorized under subsection (c)(1)(A) shall be the sole and exclusive remedies for a claim by an individual who challenges a denial under subsection (a)(1).

(i) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION.—

(1) COURTS.—Not later than 14 days after the date on which a petition is filed challenging a denial under subsection (a)(1), a district court shall determine whether to quash the denial, unless the petitioner consents to a longer period.

(2) OF QUASHING.—If the district court quashes a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e), a petitioner may submit the order quashing the denial to the Department of Homeland Security for expedited review, as appropriate.

(j) TRANSPARENCY.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter—

(1) the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a report providing—

(A) the number of individuals denied a firearm or explosives transfer or a license or permit under subsection (a)(1) during the reporting period;

(B) the number of petitions for review filed under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii); and

(C) the number of instances in which a district court quashed a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e); and

(2) the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report providing—

(A) the number of individuals—

(i) with respect to whom a district court quashed a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e); and

(ii) who submitted the order quashing the denial to the Department of Homeland Security under subsection (i)(2); and

(B) a description of the actions taken and final determinations made by the Department of Homeland Security with regard to submissions described in subparagraph (A)(ii) respecting the status of individuals on the No Fly List or Selectee List, including the length of time taken to reach a final determination.

(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The term “classified information” has the meaning given that term in section 1(a) of the Classified Information Procedures Act (18 U.S.C. App.).

(2) DOMESTIC TERRORISM.—The term “domestic terrorism” has the meaning given that term in section 2331(5) of title 18, United States Code.

(3) INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—The term “international terrorism” has the meaning given that term in section 2331(1) of title 18, United States Code.

(4) MILITARY INSTALLATION.—The term “military installation” has the meaning given that term in section 2801(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code.

(5) NATIONAL SECURITY.—The term “national security” has the meaning given that term in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(6) SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION.—The term “sensitive security information” has the meaning given that term by section 1505 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.

(7) TERRORIST ACTIVITY.—The term “terrorist activity” has the meaning given that term in section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)).

(1) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

(1) except as set forth in this section, authorize the Attorney General to modify the length of period before a firearm may be transferred under section 922(t) of title 18, United States Code; or

(2) apply to any claim other than a claim challenging the denial of a firearm, explosive, or issuance of a firearm or explosives permit or license by the Attorney General.

SA 1795. Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used—

(1) by an employee acting under the official authority of the Federal Government to create a list or database with the purpose of gathering and labeling any speech of a United States citizen as disinformation or misinformation;

(2) to provide or transmit a list or database described in paragraph (1) or a single item of speech to any provider or operator of a covered platform in order to alter, remove, restrict, or suppress speech of a United States citizen that is shared on the covered platform based on a determination, by an employee acting under the official authority of the Federal Government, that the views of the speech in the list, database, or item are disinformation or misinformation; or

(3) to create, or provide funding to a foreign government, quasi-governmental organization, or nonprofit organization for the research, development, or maintenance of, any disinformation or misinformation list or ranking system relating to news content, regardless of medium.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “covered platform” means an interactive computer service, as that term is defined in section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230).

SA 1796. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. During the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adverse Effect Wage Rate in effect under section 655.120(b) of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, shall be equal to the Adverse Effect Wage Rate in effect under such section on December 31, 2023.

SA 1797. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the final rule entitled “Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States” (88 Fed. Reg. 12760), which was published in the Federal Register on February 28, 2023 by the Department of Labor.

(b) The minimum wage rate required to be paid under the H-2A nonimmigrant agricultural worker program if such wage rate would have been determined under the final rule referred to in subsection (a) shall be the minimum wage rate in effect on February 27, 2023, for the State in which the agricultural labor or services are to be performed.

SA 1798. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available under the heading “Department of Health and Human Services—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention” in division D shall be made available until the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention submits to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes, with respect to the 10-year period immediately preceding the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) a description of any donations to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that were declined on the basis of a violation of the gift policy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

(2) a description of any donations accepted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that were made contingent upon the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention undertaking a specific objective or conclusion; and

(3) all meeting minutes of the gift review panel of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

SA 1799. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 7 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1800. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1799 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “7 days” and insert “8 days”.

SA 1801. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 9 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 1802. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1801 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike “9 days” and insert “10 days”.

SA 1803. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1802 submitted by Mr. SCHUMER and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 1801 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 1, strike “10 days” and insert “11 days”.

SA 1804. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended to make a determination or issue a waiver pursuant to—

(1) section 1245(d)(5) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a(d)(5)); or

(2) section 1244(i) or 1247(f) of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8803(i) and 8806(f)).

SA 1805. Mr. MURPHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO DENY TRANSFERS OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, AND FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES LICENSES AND PERMITS TO TERRORISTS.

(a) AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with the procedures under this section, and without regard to section 842, 843, section 922(g) or (n), or section 923 of title 18, United States Code, the Attorney General may deny the

transfer of a firearm, not later than 3 business days after a licensee under chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, contacts the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901), deny the transfer of an explosive, or deny the issuance of a Federal firearms or explosives license or permit, if either of the following are met:

(A) NO FLY LIST.—The Attorney General determines that the transferee or applicant—

(i) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(ii) based on credible information, poses—

(I) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism or domestic terrorism with respect to an aircraft (including a threat of piracy, or a threat to airline, passenger, or civil aviation security);

(II) a threat of committing an act of domestic terrorism with respect to the homeland;

(III) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism against any United States Government facility abroad and associated or supporting personnel, including United States embassies, consulates and missions, military installations, United States ships, United States aircraft, or other auxiliary craft owned or leased by the United States Government; or

(IV) a threat of engaging in or conducting a violent act of terrorism and is operationally capable of doing so.

(B) SELECTEE LIST.—The Attorney General determines that the transferee or applicant—

(i) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(ii) based on credible information, is—

(I) a member of a terrorist organization (including a foreign terrorist organization designated pursuant to a statute or Executive order); and

(II) associated with terrorist activity, unless information exists that demonstrates that the application of secondary screening to such individual is not necessary.

(2) NICS.—Solely for purposes of sections 922(t) (1), (2), (5), and (6) of title 18, United States Code, and section 103(g) of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901(g)), a denial by the Attorney General under paragraph (1) shall be treated as equivalent to a determination that receipt of a firearm would violate subsection (g) or (n) of section 922 of title 18, United States Code. During the 3-business-day period beginning when a licensee under chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, contacts the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901), and notwithstanding section 922(t)(2) of title 18, United States Code, the Attorney General may delay assigning a unique identification number to a transfer of a firearm in order to determine whether the transferee or applicant meets the requirements under paragraph (1).

(b) NOTIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES TRANSFERS TO KNOWN OR SUSPECTED TERRORIST.—The Attorney General and Federal, State, and local law enforcement shall be immediately notified, as appropriate, of any request to transfer a firearm or explosive to a person who is, or within the previous 5 years was, identified in the

Terrorist Screening Database maintained by the Terrorist Screening Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(c) REVIEW OF DENIAL.—

(1) REMEDIAL PROCEDURES AND PETITION FOR REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and who seeks to challenge a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1) may—

(i) pursue the remedial procedures under section 103(g) of Public Law 103-159 (34 U.S.C. 40901(g)); or

(ii) file a petition for review and any claims related to that petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the district court of the United States for the judicial district in which the individual resides.

(B) EXHAUSTION NOT REQUIRED.—A petitioner is not required to exhaust the remedial procedures authorized under clause (i) of subparagraph (A) before filing a petition for review under clause (ii) of subparagraph (A).

(C) PROCEDURES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General may promulgate regulations governing proceedings under subparagraph (A)(i) to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information that reasonably could be expected to result in damage to national security or ongoing law enforcement operations.

(2) DEADLINES FOR FILING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a petition for review under paragraph (1)(A)(ii), and any claims related to that petition, shall be filed not later than the earlier of—

(i) 1 year after the petitioner receives actual notice of the reason for the denial by the Attorney General; or

(ii) 5 years after the petitioner receives notice of the denial by the Attorney General.

(B) EXCEPTION.—The district court in which a petition for review is to be filed under paragraph (1)(A)(ii) may allow the petition to be filed after the deadline specified in subparagraph (A) only if there is good cause for not filing by that deadline.

(3) AUTHORITY OF DISTRICT COURTS.—The district court in which a petition for review is filed under paragraph (1)(A)(ii)—

(A) shall have—

(i) jurisdiction to decide all relevant questions of law and fact; and

(ii) exclusive jurisdiction to affirm, amend, modify, or set aside any part of the denial of the Attorney General that is the subject of the petition for review; and

(B) may order the Attorney General to conduct further proceedings.

(4) EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No district court of the United States or court of appeals of the United States shall have jurisdiction to consider the lawfulness or constitutionality of this section except pursuant to a petition for review under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii).

(B) NONCITIZENS.—No district court of the United States or court of appeals of the United States shall have jurisdiction to hear any claim by an individual who is not a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States related to or arising out of a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1).

(d) REQUIREMENT FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND PROCEDURES FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following procedures shall apply with respect to a petition for review filed in a district court under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii):

(1) The United States shall file with the court an administrative record, which shall consist of—

(A) the information the Attorney General relied upon in denying the transfer or application;

(B) a summary of known material mitigation information;

(C) any information the petitioner has submitted pursuant to any administrative process; and

(D) any information determined relevant by the United States.

(2) The petitioner may file with the court any information determined relevant by the petitioner.

(B) With leave of the court, the United States may supplement the administrative record with additional information.

(3) All information in the administrative record that is not classified and is not otherwise privileged or subject to statutory protections shall be provided to the petitioner.

(4) No discovery shall be permitted, unless the court shall determine extraordinary circumstances requires discovery in the interests of justice.

(5) Sensitive security information contained in the administrative record may only be provided to petitioners counsel, pursuant to a protective order.

(6) The administrative record may include classified information, which the United States shall submit to the court in camera and ex parte. The court shall review all classified information in camera and ex parte unless it enters an order under paragraph (C).

(B) The United States shall notify the petitioner if the administrative record filed under paragraph (1) contains classified information.

(C) The court is authorized to determine the extent to which cleared counsel shall be permitted to access classified information necessary to protect the due process rights of a petitioner and enter an appropriate order.

(D) If the court enters an order under subparagraph (C) providing for the disclosure of information and the United States files with the court an affidavit of the Attorney General objecting to the disclosure, the court shall order that the information not be disclosed.

(ii) If information is not disclosed under clause (i), the court shall enter such an order as the interests of justice require, which may include an order quashing the denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1).

(iii) An order under subparagraph (C) or clause (ii) of this subparagraph shall be subject to review by a court of appeals pursuant to section 1292 of title 28, United States Code.

(iv) An order under clause (ii) shall be administratively stayed for 7 days.

(v) The functions and duties of the Attorney General under this subparagraph—

(I) may be exercised by the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Attorney General, or by an Assistant Attorney General designated by the Attorney General for such purpose; and

(II) may not be delegated to any other official.

(E) Any information disclosed under subparagraph (C) shall be subject to an appropriate protective order.

(7) The administrative record may include information obtained or derived from an order issued under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), without regard to subsections (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of section 106 (50 U.S.C. 1806), subsections (d), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of section 305 (50 U.S.C. 1825), subsections (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of section 405 (50 U.S.C. 1845), and section 706 (50 U.S.C. 1881e) of that Act. If the United States intends to use such information against an aggrieved

person (as defined in section 101, 301, or 401 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801, 1821, and 1841)), it shall provide in camera and ex parte notice to the court concerning such use.

(B) If the court receives a notice under subparagraph (A), the court shall review, in camera and ex parte, the order described in that subparagraph and any other materials that may be submitted by the United States.

(C) If the court determines that the order described in subparagraph (A) was not lawfully authorized, or the information was not obtained in conformity with the order, it shall exclude such information from consideration as part of the administrative record.

(8) Any classified information, sensitive security information, law enforcement sensitive information, or information that is otherwise privileged or subject to statutory protections, that is part of the administrative record, or cited by the court or the parties, shall be treated by the court and the parties consistent with the provisions of this subsection, and shall be sealed and preserved in the records of the court to be made available in the event of further proceedings. In no event shall such information be released as part of the public record.

(9) The court shall award reasonable attorney fees to a petitioner who is a prevailing party in an action under this section.

(10) After the expiration of the time to seek further review, or the conclusion of further proceedings, the court shall return the administrative record, including any and all copies, to the United States. All privileged information or other information in the possession of counsel for the petitioner that was provided by the United States under a protective order shall be returned to the United States, or the counsel for the petitioner shall certify its destruction, including any and all copies.

(e) **SCOPE OF REVIEW.**—The district court shall quash any denial by the Attorney General under subsection (a)(1), unless the United States demonstrates, based on the administrative record, on a de novo review of fact and law—

(1) that the transferee or applicant—

(A) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to terrorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(B) based on credible information, poses—

(i) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism or domestic terrorism with respect to an aircraft (including a threat of piracy, or a threat to airline, passenger, or civil aviation security);

(ii) a threat of committing an act of domestic terrorism with respect to the homeland;

(iii) a threat of committing an act of international terrorism against any United States Government facility abroad and associated or supporting personnel, including United States embassies, consulates and missions, military installations, United States ships, United States aircraft, or other auxiliary craft owned or leased by the United States Government; or

(iv) a threat of engaging in or conducting a violent act of terrorism and is operationally capable of doing so; or

(2) that the transferee or applicant—

(A) based on the totality of the circumstances, represents a threat to public safety based on a reasonable suspicion that the transferee or applicant is engaged, or has been engaged, in conduct constituting, in preparation of, in aid of, or related to ter-

rorism, or providing material support or resources therefor; and

(B) based on credible information—

(i) is a member of a terrorist organization (including a foreign terrorist organization) designated pursuant to a statute or Executive order; and

(ii) is associated with terrorist activity, unless information exists that demonstrates that the application of secondary screening to such individual is not necessary.

(f) **EFFECT OF QUASHING.**—If the district court quashes a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General shall—

(1) for a denial of the transfer of a firearm, cause a unique identifier to issue pursuant to section 922(t)(2) of title 18, United States Code, not later than 3 days after the issuance of the order under subsection (e); and

(2) for a denial of a license or permit, expeditiously issue a license or permit under chapter 40 or 44 of title 18, United States Code, as applicable.

(g) **REVIEW OF DECISION OF DISTRICT COURT.**—A final decision of a district court under this section shall be subject to review by a court of appeals in accordance with section 1291 of title 28, United States Code.

(h) **EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES.**—The remedial procedures and a petition for review authorized under subsection (c)(1)(A) shall be the sole and exclusive remedies for a claim by an individual who challenges a denial under subsection (a)(1).

(i) **EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION.**—

(1) **COURTS.**—Not later than 14 days after the date on which a petition is filed challenging a denial under subsection (a)(1), a district court shall determine whether to quash the denial, unless the petitioner consents to a longer period.

(2) **OF QUASHING.**—If the district court quashes a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e), a petitioner may submit the order quashing the denial to the Department of Homeland Security for expedited review, as appropriate.

(j) **TRANSPARENCY.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter—

(1) the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a report providing—

(A) the number of individuals denied a firearm or explosives transfer or a license or permit under subsection (a)(1) during the reporting period;

(B) the number of petitions for review filed under subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii); and

(C) the number of instances in which a district court quashed a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e); and

(2) the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report providing—

(A) the number of individuals—

(i) with respect to whom a district court quashed a denial by the Attorney General under subsection (e); and

(ii) who submitted the order quashing the denial to the Department of Homeland Security under subsection (i)(2); and

(B) a description of the actions taken and final determinations made by the Department of Homeland Security with regard to

submissions described in subparagraph (A)(ii) respecting the status of individuals on the No Fly List or Selectee List, including the length of time taken to reach a final determination.

(k) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.**—The term “classified information” has the meaning given that term in section 1(a) of the Classified Information Procedures Act (18 U.S.C. App.).

(2) **DOMESTIC TERRORISM.**—The term “domestic terrorism” has the meaning given that term in section 2331(5) of title 18, United States Code.

(3) **INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.**—The term “international terrorism” has the meaning given that term in section 2331(1) of title 18, United States Code.

(4) **MILITARY INSTALLATION.**—The term “military installation” has the meaning given that term in section 2801(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code.

(5) **NATIONAL SECURITY.**—The term “national security” has the meaning given that term in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(6) **SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION.**—The term “sensitive security information” has the meaning given that term by section 1505 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.

(7) **TERRORIST ACTIVITY.**—The term “terrorist activity” has the meaning given that term in section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)).

(1) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

(1) except as set forth in this section, authorize the Attorney General to modify the length of period before a firearm may be transferred under section 922(t) of title 18, United States Code; or

(2) apply to any claim other than a claim challenging the denial of a firearm, explosive, or issuance of a firearm or explosives permit or license by the Attorney General.

SA 1806. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division B, insert the following:

SEC. _____. The Federal Communications Commission—

(1) may not modify the rules or regulations of the Commission for universal service high-cost support for competitive eligible telecommunications carriers, including by finalizing the areas that are eligible for support from the 5G Fund for Rural America, until after the date as of which the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information has approved all final proposals received under section 60102(e)(4) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (47 U.S.C. 1702(e)(4)); and

(2) after the date described in paragraph (1), shall use the most recent maps available under section 802(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 642(c)) in defining the areas that are eligible for support from the 5G Fund for Rural America.

SA 1807. Mr. BUDD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 426, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following:

SEC. 552. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to grant any immigration status or other benefit to any alien who has been convicted of, been charged with, or admitted to a law enforcement officer or in a legal proceeding, assaulting a law enforcement officer.

SA 1808. Mr. LEE (for Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Ms. ERNST)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. Lee to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to facilitate, provide, or purchase air transportation from a foreign country to the United States for an alien in order for such alien to utilize a parole process described in—

(1) the notice of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Implementation of a Parole Process for Venezuelans” (87 Fed. Reg. 63507 (October 19, 2022));

(2) the notice of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Implementation of a Parole Process for Haitians” (88 Fed. Reg. 1243 (January 9, 2023));

(3) the notice of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Implementation of a Parole Process for Nicaraguans” (88 Fed. Reg. 1255 (January 9, 2023)); or

(4) the notice of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Implementation of a Parole Process for Cubans” (88 Fed. Reg. 1266 (January 9, 2023)).

(b) The limitation described in subsection (a) shall not apply in exigent circumstances in which an individual is being—

(1) provided emergency medical treatment; or

(2) brought to the United States for necessary law enforcement purposes.

SA 1809. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. _____. **FOLLOW-UP SERVICES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN PLACED WITH SPONSORS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Immediately upon placing an unaccompanied alien child with a sponsor, the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement shall conduct follow-up services, including in-person home visits.

(b) ADDITIONAL SERVICES.—The Director may conduct other follow-up services, including phone calls, electronic correspondence, and other communications.

SA 1810. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. **REPORT ON MISSING UNACCOMPANIED MINOR CHILDREN.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly there-

after, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress a report that includes the number of unaccompanied minor children—

(1) who have been released from the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services; and

(2) whose current location is unknown.

SA 1811. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended by the Department of State to take any action to release funds or assets to Iran pursuant to the 120-day extension of the waiver, approved by the Department on March 13, 2024, of sanctions with respect to Iran under section 1245(d)(5) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a(d)(5)) and sections 1244(i) and 1247(f) of the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8803(i) and 8806(f)), unlocking \$10,000,000,000 in frozen assets, currently being held in escrow Iranian accounts in Iraq, to be transferred to third-party countries, including Oman, before being sent to Iran.

SA 1812. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to admit an adult alien into the United States with a minor alien if a DNA test does not prove that the minor alien is a relative of the adult alien.

SA 1813. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report on the status of development and near-term deployment of hypersonic systems for defense capabilities.

SA 1814. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to Congress a comprehensive report on the sexual violence inflicted on Israeli men and

women by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other collaborators on October 7, 2023, and on the sexual violence that continues to be committed against male and female hostages who are currently held captive in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other collaborators.

SA 1815. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 954, line 6, insert “Of the funds made available for the Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund under this subsection, the USAID Administrator shall allocate \$10,000,000 to the Government of the State of Israel, which may distribute such funding in order to provide assistance to the victims of sexual violence (both male and female) in Israel by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other collaborators on October 7, 2023, and for the male and female hostages who continue to experience sexual violence and are being held captive in Gaza by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and other collaborators.” after “Fund.”

SA 1816. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. **EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION FOR ASYLUM APPLICANTS.**

Section 208(d)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Concurrently with the filing of an application for asylum, an applicant for asylum may apply for employment authorization under this section.

“(B) DECISION ON APPLICATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may not approve an application for employment authorization filed under this paragraph until the date that is 30 days after the date on which the applicant filed an application for asylum.”

SA 1817. Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BENNET) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2882, to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 348, line 16, strike “\$650,000,000” and insert “\$1,400,000,000”.

On page 349, line 2, insert “: *Provided further*, That eligibility for funding made available under this heading for ‘Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance’ for the Shelter and Services Program is not limited to entities that previously received or applied for funding for the Shelter and Services Program or the Emergency Food and Shelter Program. *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985” before the period at the end.

SA 1818. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3613, to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Federal Building Security Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. RESPONDING TO SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) FACILITY SECURITY COMMITTEE.—The term “Facility Security Committee” means a committee that—

(A) consists of representatives of—

(i) all Federal tenants in a specific non-military facility;

(ii) the security organization for the facility; and

(iii) the owning or leasing Federal tenant; and

(B) is responsible for addressing facility-specific security issues and approving the implementation of security measures and practices in the facility.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) RESPONSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Federal Protective Service issues a security recommendation to a Facility Security Committee to improve facility security, the head of the Facility Security Committee, or a designee thereof, shall—

(A) respond to the Secretary—

(i) indicating if the Facility Security Committee intends to adopt or reject the recommendation; and

(ii) describing the financial implications of adopting or rejecting the recommendation, including if the benefits outweigh the costs; and

(B) if the Facility Security Committee intends to reject the recommendation, provide the Secretary a justification for accepting the risk posed by rejecting the recommendation.

(2) METHOD.—The Secretary shall—

(A) develop a method to monitor the recommendations and responses described in paragraph (1); and

(B) take reasonable action to ensure Facility Security Committee responsiveness under paragraph (1).

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that, for the fiscal year preceding the report, includes—

(A) a summary of the security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service to Facility Security Committees to improve facility security;

(B) the percentage of recommendations described in subparagraph (A) that were accepted and the percentage of such recommendations that were rejected;

(C) the percentage of Facility Security Committees that failed to respond to a recommendation described in subparagraph (A) in a timely manner;

(D) a summary of justifications provided by Facility Security Committees if a Facility Security Committee rejected a recommendation described in subparagraph (A);

(E) a summary of the financial implications of Facility Security Committee responses to recommendations described in subparagraph (A), including if the benefits outweigh the costs;

(F) an analysis of steps taken by Facility Security Committees to mitigate the risk posed by rejecting a recommendation described in subparagraph (A); and

(G) an analysis of any trends found among the findings in the report.

(2) FORM.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(3) BRIEFING.—The Secretary shall brief the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on an annual basis on the findings of the most recently submitted report under paragraph (1).

(d) REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives an unredacted report on—

(1) all surveillance technology recommended by the Federal Protective Service; and

(2) any intended use of the technology described in paragraph (1).

(e) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

(f) SUNSET AND REPORT.—

(1) SUNSET.—This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of this Act.

(g) APPLICATION.—This Act shall only apply to—

(1) General Services Administration facilities under protection of the Federal Protective Service; and

(2) non-General Services Administration facilities that pay fees to the Federal Protective Service for protection.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted for the following staffer in my office for the remainder of the 118th Congress: Claire Monteiro.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following staffer in my office be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 118th Congress: Emily Trudeau.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BILLION DOLLAR BOONDOGGLE ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 334, S. 1258.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1258) to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1258) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 1258

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Billion Dollar Boondoggle Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “covered agency” means—

(A) an Executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code; and

(B) an independent regulatory agency, as defined in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code;

(2) the term “covered project” means a project funded by a covered agency—

(A) that is more than 5 years behind schedule, as measured against the original expected date for completion; or

(B) for which the amount spent on the project is not less than \$1,000,000,000 more than the original cost estimate for the project; and

(3) the term “project” means a major acquisition, a major defense acquisition program (as defined in section 4201 of title 10, United States Code), a procurement, a construction project, a remediation or clean-up effort, or any other time-limited endeavor, that is not funded through direct spending (as defined in section 250(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900(c))).

(b) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue guidance requiring covered agencies to include, on an annual basis in a report described in paragraph (2) of section 3516(a) of title 31, United States Code, or a consolidated report described in paragraph (1) of such section, information relating to each covered project of the covered agency, which shall include—

(1) a brief description of the covered project, including—

(A) the purpose of the covered project;

(B) each location in which the covered project is carried out;

(C) the contract or award number of the covered project, where applicable;

(D) the year in which the covered project was initiated;

(E) the Federal share of the total cost of the covered project; and

(F) each primary contractor, subcontractor, grant recipient, and subgrantee recipient of the covered project;

(2) an explanation of any change to the original scope of the covered project, including by the addition or narrowing of the initial requirements of the covered project;

(3) the original expected date for completion of the covered project;

(4) the current expected date for completion of the covered project;

(5) the original cost estimate for the covered project, as adjusted to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

(6) the current cost estimate for the covered project, as adjusted to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

(7) an explanation for a delay in completion or an increase in the original cost estimate for the covered project, including, where applicable, any impact of insufficient or delayed appropriations; and

(8) the amount of and rationale for any award, incentive fee, or other type of bonus, if any, awarded for the covered project.

IMPROVING FEDERAL BUILDING SECURITY ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 347, S. 3613.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3613) to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Federal Building Security Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. RESPONDING TO SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) FACILITY SECURITY COMMITTEE.—The term “Facility Security Committee” means a committee that—

(A) consists of representatives of—

(i) all Federal tenants in a specific non-military facility;

(ii) the security organization for the facility; and

(iii) the owning or leasing Federal tenant; and

(B) is responsible for addressing facility-specific security issues and approving the implementation of security measures and practices in the facility.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) RESPONSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Federal Protective Service issues a security recommendation to a Facility Security Committee to improve facility security, the head of the Facility Security Committee, or a designee thereof, shall

(A) respond to the Secretary—

(i) indicating if the Facility Security Committee intends to adopt or reject the recommendation; and

(ii) describing the financial implications of adopting or rejecting the recommendation, including if the benefits outweigh the costs; and

(B) if the Facility Security Committee intends to reject the recommendation, provide the Secretary a justification for accepting the risk posed by rejecting the recommendation.

(2) METHOD.—The Secretary shall—

(A) develop a method to monitor the recommendations and responses described in paragraph (1); and

(B) take reasonable action to ensure Facility Security Committee responsiveness under paragraph (1).

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that, for the fiscal year preceding the report, includes—

(A) a summary of the security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service to Facility Security Committees to improve facility security;

(B) the percentage of recommendations described in subparagraph (A) that were accepted and the percentage of such recommendations that were rejected;

(C) the percentage of Facility Security Committees that failed to respond to a recommendation described in subparagraph (A) in a timely manner;

(D) a summary of justifications provided by Facility Security Committees if a Facility Security Committee rejected a recommendation described in subparagraph (A);

(E) a summary of the financial implications of Facility Security Committee responses to recommendations described in subparagraph (A), including if the benefits outweigh the costs;

(F) an analysis of steps taken by Facility Security Committees to mitigate the risk posed by rejecting a recommendation described in subparagraph (A); and

(G) an analysis of any trends found among the findings in the report.

(2) FORM.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(3) BRIEFING.—The Secretary shall brief the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on an annual basis on the findings of the most recently submitted report under paragraph (1).

(d) REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives an unredacted report on—

(1) all surveillance technology recommended by the Federal Protective Service; and

(2) any intended use of the technology described in paragraph (1).

(e) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

(f) SUNSET AND REPORT.—

(1) SUNSET.—This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit

to Congress a report on the effectiveness of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn; that the Peters substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 1818) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Federal Building Security Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. RESPONDING TO SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) FACILITY SECURITY COMMITTEE.—The term “Facility Security Committee” means a committee that—

(A) consists of representatives of—

(i) all Federal tenants in a specific non-military facility;

(ii) the security organization for the facility; and

(B) is responsible for addressing facility-specific security issues and approving the implementation of security measures and practices in the facility.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) RESPONSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Federal Protective Service issues a security recommendation to a Facility Security Committee to improve facility security, the head of the Facility Security Committee, or a designee thereof, shall—

(A) respond to the Secretary—

(i) indicating if the Facility Security Committee intends to adopt or reject the recommendation; and

(ii) describing the financial implications of adopting or rejecting the recommendation, including if the benefits outweigh the costs; and

(B) if the Facility Security Committee intends to reject the recommendation, provide the Secretary a justification for accepting the risk posed by rejecting the recommendation.

(2) METHOD.—The Secretary shall—

(A) develop a method to monitor the recommendations and responses described in paragraph (1); and

(B) take reasonable action to ensure Facility Security Committee responsiveness under paragraph (1).

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that, for the fiscal year preceding the report, includes—

(A) a summary of the security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service to Facility Security Committees to improve facility security;

(B) the percentage of recommendations described in subparagraph (A) that were accepted and the percentage of such recommendations that were rejected;

(C) the percentage of Facility Security Committees that failed to respond to a recommendation described in subparagraph (A) in a timely manner;

(D) a summary of justifications provided by Facility Security Committees if a Facility Security Committee rejected a recommendation described in subparagraph (A);

(E) a summary of the financial implications of Facility Security Committee responses to recommendations described in subparagraph (A), including if the benefits outweigh the costs;

(F) an analysis of steps taken by Facility Security Committees to mitigate the risk posed by rejecting a recommendation described in subparagraph (A); and

(G) an analysis of any trends found among the findings in the report.

(2) FORM.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(3) BRIEFING.—The Secretary shall brief the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on an annual basis on the findings of the most recently submitted report under paragraph (1).

(d) REPORT ON SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives an unredacted report on—

(1) all surveillance technology recommended by the Federal Protective Service; and

(2) any intended use of the technology described in paragraph (1).

(e) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

(f) SUNSET AND REPORT.—

(1) SUNSET.—This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of this Act.

(g) APPLICATION.—This Act shall only apply to—

(1) General Services Administration facilities under protection of the Federal Protective Service; and

(2) non-General Services Administration facilities that pay fees to the Federal Protective Service for protection.

The bill (S. 3613), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

DESIGNATING 2024 AS THE YEAR OF DEMOCRACY AS A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO A MORE FREE AND STABLE WORLD

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 333.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 333) designating 2024 as the Year of Democracy as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of Government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 333) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 7, 2023, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MEDICOLEGAL DEATH INVESTIGATION PROFESSIONALS WEEK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 532.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 532) recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Medicolegal Death Investigation Professionals Week.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table.

A resolution (S. Res. 532) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of January 25, 2024, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MARCH 17 THROUGH MARCH 23, 2024, AS NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 625, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 625) recognizing the week of March 17 through March 23, 2024, as “National Poison Prevention Week” and encouraging communities across the United States to raise awareness of the dangers of poisoning and promote poison prevention.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 625) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S.J. RES. 67, S.J. RES. 68, AND S.J. RES. 69

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand there are three joint resolutions at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the joint resolutions by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 67) to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 68) providing for the issuance of a summons, providing for the appointment of a committee to receive and to report evidence, and establishing related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 69) to provide for related procedures concerning the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The joint resolutions will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services,

pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-81, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Afghanistan War Commission: Dr. Dipali Mukhopadhyay of the District of Columbia vice Michael D. Lumpkin of Virginia.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114-196, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission: Member of the Senate: The Honorable SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO of West Virginia.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to Commissions, committees, Boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024, THROUGH MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, March 26, 5 p.m.; Thursday, March 28 at 10 a.m.; Monday, April 1, at 10 a.m.; Thursday, April 4, at 2 p.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, April 4, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m., Monday, April 8; that on Monday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Bazis nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, MARCH 26, AT 5 P.M.

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:29 a.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 5 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. CASE A. CUNNINGHAM

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 22, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

LEON SCHYDLOWER, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

ERNEST GONZALEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. TUAN NGUYEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DOUGLAS J. ADAMS

CAPT. DANIEL W. EITLICH

CAPT. TODD M. EVANS

CAPT. PETER D. SMALL

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. PAUL R. FAST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ANNMARIE K. ANTHONY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS FOR THE AIR FORCE AND THE SPACE FORCE AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE SO SERVING IN THAT POSITION UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 9039:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. TRENT C. DAVIS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH A. RICCIARDI

To be brigadier general

COL. LOUISA R. BARGERON

COL. CHARLES R. BELL

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) DION D. ENGLISH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) SUSAN BRYERJOYNER

REAR ADM. (LH) RALPH R. SMITH III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) ELIZABETH S. OKANO

REAR ADM. (LH) KURT J. ROTHENHAUS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MARK D. BEHNING

REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS R. BUCHANAN

REAR ADM. (LH) CHRISTOPHER J. CAVANAUGH
REAR ADM. (LH) JENNIFER S. COUTRE
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM R. DALY
REAR ADM. (LH) ERIK J. ESLICH
REAR ADM. (LH) RONALD A. FOY
REAR ADM. (LH) PATRICK J. HANNIFIN
REAR ADM. (LH) GREGORY C. HUFFMAN
REAR ADM. (LH) KEVIN P. LENOX
REAR ADM. (LH) OLIVER T. LEWIS
REAR ADM. (LH) MARC J. MIGUEZ
REAR ADM. (LH) BENJAMIN R. NICHOLSON
REAR ADM. (LH) CARLOS A. SARDIELLO

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. TODD D. MILLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAVID W. KELLEY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. RONNIE D. ANDERSON, JR.

COL. BRYAN L. BABICH

COL. JEREMY A. BARTEL

COL. JAMES T. BLEJSKI, JR.

COL. W.M. BOCHAT

COL. ROBERT G. BORN

COL. KIRK E. BRINKER

COL. ROBERT S. BROWN

COL. KEVIN S. CHANEY

COL. KENNETH C. COLE

COL. KEVIN L. COTMAN

COL. JOHNATON L. DAWBER

COL. DAVID P. ELSNER

COL. JOSEPH M. EWERS

COL. EUGENE J. FERRIS

COL. RONALD L. FRANKLIN, JR.

COL. ROGELIO J. GARCIA

COL. PETER C. GLASS

COL. JOSEPH C. GOETZ II

COL. PHILIP J. KINERY III

COL. PAUL T. KRATTIGER

COL. JOHN P. KUNSTBECK

COL. MATTHEW J. LENNOX

COL. ROBERT J. MIKESH, JR.

COL. ZACHARY L. MILLER

COL. JIN H. PARK

COL. WILLIAM M. PARKER

COL. ALLEN J. PEPPER

COL. BRENDAN C. RAYMOND

COL. ADAM D. SMITH

COL. TERRY R. TILLIS

COL. GEORGE C. TURNER, JR.

COL. SHANE M. UPTON

COL. ERIC J. VANDENBOSCH

COL. JASON T. WILLIAMS

COL. KEVIN J. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. CHARLES M. CAUSEY

COL. RODERICK F. LAUGHMAN

COL. URBI N. LEWIS

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DEREK C. FRANCE

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ERIC E. AUSTIN

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BENJAMIN J. ALLISON AND ENDING WITH PATRICK R. WIGGINS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 19, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LLOYD G. ABIGANIA AND ENDING WITH 0002926605, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 19, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRENNAN R. ABRAHAMSON AND ENDING WITH 0002325489, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 19, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEREL Q. ABAS AND ENDING WITH 0002765821, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 19, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ANDREW C. ODDO, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF ANDREW J. ACOSTA, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF COLBY S. MILLER, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF SETH M. WILLIAMS, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF AARON R. MONKMAN, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH R. COTTON, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF JUAN C. GONGORA, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW A. DUGARD AND ENDING WITH JAMES R. JOHNSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 29, 2024.
ARMY NOMINATION OF ARNOLD J. STEINLAGE III, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ARLENE JOHNSON, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF DARIM C. NESSLER, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATION OF BRANDI N. HICKS, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NATHAN A. BENNINGTON AND ENDING WITH ANDREW S. WAGNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 29, 2024.
ARMY NOMINATION OF SANDEEP R. N. RAHANGDALE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF WENDI J. DICK, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN J. GRASS, TO BE COLONEL.
MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF THOMAS C. FARRINGTON II, TO BE COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF YULIYA OMAROV, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF MEGAN M. GRUBBS, TO BE CAPTAIN.
NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN O. WILSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
NAVY NOMINATION OF BRACKERY L. BATTLE, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL J. BALDOR AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW A. WAGNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 29, 2024.

NAVY NOMINATION OF WILLIAM J. ROY, JR., TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF COLETTE B. LAZENKA, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF NIKOLAOS SIDIROPOULOS, TO BE CAPTAIN.